

FLORIDA SKIP

THE AMATEUR RADIO VOICE OF THE SOUTHEAST

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April 1995

Tower Triggers Terrorism

Mel Gossard (K3ML) retired from the United States Air Force having served from 1942 until 1964 when he was forced to retire due to a service connected disability. Mel was a high speed CW operator and later a long haul communications technician for the Army Air Corps, later the USAF. At his home on Cudjoe Key, Florida, he started the first FCC Volunteer Examiner's Center. He also started the Cudjoe Key VFW Post 8683 and is a member of the Disabled American Veterans and AMVETS.

Mel is married to Carmelita (W3YWK) who has been the ARES Monroe County Emergency Coordinator for many years. Carmelita was the first fe-

male elected chairman of the Monroe County Veteran's Council that boasts over 30 participating veterans organizations. She was awarded the Monroe County Citizenship Award in 1991 for her volunteer efforts in the veteran's community and for her years of participation as a "Candy Striper" in military hospitals. Carmelita had gained her hospital experience at the "Convent of Mercy" in Jamaica.

During Hurricane Andrew, Mel and Carmelita handled thousands of formal radio messages from their station on Cudjoe Key. Three telephone positions were continuously kept busy by local volunteers. Even though Carmelita resides in Monroe County, Dade County honored

It seems that a bald eagle nest was discovered nearly a mile from their land. Erecting a tower or building was considered the taking of an endangered species.



The Gossards survey the remains of a power pole that was felled by the Ecopolice who appointed themselves as guardians of the environment.

her for her outstanding service during the hurricane.

Mel and Carmelita spent most of their lives in service to the country and to their fellow human beings. For this it is fair to assume that our society owes them a debt of gratitude. But for many years a cancer has been growing in our society that defies reason and assaults the sensibilities of an ordinary citizen. This cancer is disguised as a government-sanctioned environmental movement that attacks private citizens, property owners, small business entrepreneurs and numerous others who lack the resources to defend themselves from the taxpayer funded assault.

Mel and Carmelita settled in the keys hoping to live off Mel's military pension. "It was impossible," Mel said, "living is not cheap in paradise." In 1985,

Continued on page 16



FLORIDA SKIP

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FROM THE EDITOR

TOP TEN HAM LIES

10. No - I didn't notice the lights dimming.

9. Really dear, I only paid \$549.00 - on sale - for that brand new Kenwood TS-450.

8. R R Bill, Thanks for good signal report. Makes me glad I spent nearly \$2000 for my brand new Kenwood TS-450.

7. I used to be able to copy nearly 50 WPM.

6. Hell no....ya wouldn't ever catch me usin' CB.

5. R R STA HR IS 100 MHZ INTEL PENTIUM WITH 24 MB RAM, 1 GB HARD DRIVE, BAYCOM MODEM WITH ICOM IC-2A TRANCEIVER.

4 No need to worry, Charley - my house will blow away before that sucker blows down.

3. If ya need any help puttin' up your tower, ya can count on me.
(tie)

Really darling, if there's lightning - the tower will take it to ground and it'll NEVER touch the house!

2. My SWR never runs over 1.2 or 1.3.

The all-time number 1 lie is:

1. Honey you know you'll never take a back seat to ham radio.

//ger

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From Larry, KE4ESV FAST Net Manager: Hi everyone! From Hollywood, Florida this is Larry, KE4ESV and I suspect that I am not the only operator in the net who is checking my antenna in anticipation of the winds of March. February for the most part was a short and pleasant month for the SFAST net as band conditions for the most part were suitable for message handling. The QRM was limited to the rare human type. I'm pleased to not that the Florida Phone Traffic Net is NTS affiliated and the net manager Bob, WN4IIV has assured me that traffic will be passed with the same speed and efficiency that it always has. I would ask all the net members to give their kind consideration to being a net liaison from the SFAST late session to the FPTN (0655 eastern, 3940 kHz) so that we also may continue to pass traffic in our always expedient manner.

Also, please give some thought to acting as a net control station at some time in the near future. I don't believe that we can ever have too many NCS as the crises of the past 2-3 years and longer will attest. The best time to garner experience is before an urgent event creates a shortage of control stations. As most of you know, it is not unusual for nets to run around the clock in times of need, and as my grandmother was fond of saying, "Many hands make for light work". Please give it some serious thought as I think you would also enjoy it.

Every month I keep promising myself that I will make special note of the stations who frequent our net on virtually a daily basis but once again, space is short; perhaps next month. For now, please continue to make welcome the new visitors to our net, including KA2YZM, W1ALE, N1KPT, N1GND, K0VNB and

W3QQ. Suffice to say, many thanks for your constant diligence and participation in our two daily sessions that make the SFAST net as enjoyable and efficient as it is and has been. Until nest time, all are welcome to join us twice daily on 3940 kHz at 6PM and 1030PM eastern time. As we look forward to your QSO. 73 and 88 de Larry, KE4ESV.

From Earl, WX4J TPTN Net Manager: Well we made it through February complete with valentines traffic with no major problems. The band stayed in good shape for the most part and that really helps when you can hear each other, especially when trying to pass traffic. Would like to remind everyone that from time to time we hear our friends in Maine - The Seagull Net - and I know they hear us so we should move off 3940 to conduct the net. Also remember that there are ongoing QSO's at 3030 and 2945 so we should remain clear of those frequencies (and all others that are occupied for that matter). We certainly don't "own" a frequency, although we would like to be at 3940 all the time. That is not always possible.

I would like to extend a welcome aboard to Alan, AD4QH from Orlando. Alan provides us with a much needed outlet. Also< I would like to thank Carroll, K4AJV for taking the net reports and compiling them for me. I certainly appreciate the assistance. Once again, I would like to thank all net members for their willingness to step in and pick up whatever task is necessary. It's much appreciated. Until next month - 73/88 Earl, WX4J.

From Bob, KC4ZHF SEFTN Asst. Net Manager: SEFTN met 28 consecutive time during the month of February and logged 1150 stations, 311 formal

messages and 1625 minutes of net time. Another good month with a number of new members. Welcome aboard, come back often, listen, ask questions and learn.

Our 1000th checkin for the month was WA9VND on the 25th and KC4ZHF was NCS. Congrats Laura. This was the 88th consecutive month SEFTN has logged over 1000 checkins.

Honor Roll for the month, with 100% participation were: KD4HGU, KE4OKI, N4TBS, KB4WBY, KA2YZM and KC4ZHF.

Tuesday night traffic tips continues to be a success. Many traffic handling subjects are brought to the net and thoroughly discussed. All questions are answered. Every Tuesday promptly at 6:30PM. Tune in.

Join KD4GR, KC4ZHF, KB4WBY, WA9VND and KC4ZHN, all SEFTN members, on QFNS - a slow speed CW training net - daily at 8PM on 3715 MHz +/- QRM. Broaden the scope of your traffic handling abilities.

SEFTN meets daily on the Motorola Amateur Radio Repeater, 146.19/79 MHz at 6PM local time. Join us. All are welcome. Good coverage of Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties. 73/88 de Bob, KC4ZHF, Asst. Net Mgr.

From Dave, N4GMU FPTN Asst. Net Manager: Our great net manager Bob, WN4IIV has just sent me a message that he is speechless. Not of those of you who know bob, that is a change. Not really true as it was his speech card on his computer that fell silent. The big news for February and spilling over into March was whether the FPTN would remain as an NTS net. It seems that some of the procedures we were following were not exactly according to the rules. After lengthy talks with our fearless leaders, the question was put to the membership and the overwhelming majority voted to keep the net as an NTS accredited net. The month of February proved to be busy and only 28 days of work. We had 1066 members and 127 travelers stop by for the month and handled 150 NTS messages. 100% stations were: K4AJV, KQ4AZ, WD4DAH, KA4DCA, WA4EYU, WN4IIV, KD4IVP, KN4OX, K4RBR, K4SJA, WA9VND, KI4VT, WB4ZVD and KB4MON. Why not start your day the FPTN way at 0655 daily on 3940 kHz. 73/88 from Dave and the gang.

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QFN Reported by: Chet, AB4XK: February seemed to fly by but still had a decent traffic count. We lost two good active operators due to medical problems. They are on the road to recovery. Thanks to N4BC, WX4H, K4SCL, WV5Z and KA4FZI for helping to fill in for SM WA4PFK and STM K4ZK, both extremely curtailed in their responsibilities.

Band conditions are fairly good most of the time. Some of our winter visitors will be returning back north by the time you read this, and we will miss them. The following stations made BPL in December: WX4H, WA9VND, N4SS, W4SCL, AA4HT, AB4XK, AB4EA and WC4D. If I missed anyone, please accept my apologies.

A new check-in was Biff, KE4USV of Tampa who has been involved with traffic handling in the 70's, in fact with QFN. Welcome to the net Biff, and drop in often. We have some temporary net NCS and liaison spots open. Let me know if you would like to give one a try. Keep up the good work. 73, Chet.

QFNS Reported by Laura, WA9VND: Statistics for February QNI 195, QTC 74, QND 627. Another month and we are still waiting to hear all of you hams out there. We did have WB9ELP, Nick in Gainesville; AD4QH, Alan in Orlando and KE4RSN, Harold in Lauderhill. Thanks a lot fellows and come often.

There are a lot of you out there -- and all bashful?? I keep telling you how easy it is, but just in case it slipped your mind, just send "de (your call) QRU", if no traffic. Please don't forget to QNZ, that means zero beat with the NCS so he can copy you. Just a wriggle of your wrist and we will be glad to say HI when you come in. Discover a great method of communication, so what is holding all of you up?

Pretty soon I won't be manager and you won't hear me inviting you. Don't put it off anymore - OK? Our newest NCS trainee stations are KE4DNO, Gary of Lake Helen, and KC4ZHF of Fort Lauderdale who are doing well and are ready to work any and all the CW nets. Remember they got their start on QFNS and so can you. QFNS meets at 8:00 PM every night on 3715 kHz. 88, Laura.

Gator Net as reported by Dan, W4DL: Dick, N2AOX is still on the surgery list at Emory and still has physical rehab to go through in Daytona Beach. His wife is doing fine. Mae, W3CUL and

Al, W3VR indicate that their problems are contests, propagation and a non-cooperative 20 meters. Andy, W4IYT reports a county-wide TV about the jamboree was on channel 36 with Frank Ward, K4RBR and Gators Rip, AA4HT as moderators. George, K4JI is plagued with antenna problems and is going to take it down and start over. Lots of SSB QRM there. Chris says his wife in NJ bringing back her mother and father age 94 to Florida to enjoy the mild winters. Charley, WA4EYU says he just keeps busy making the rounds jobbing to the Y, to the store and keeping the car running. The net welcomes Rip, AA4HT and we try to keep him busy. He relieves traffic that was sent on SSB. Dan, W4DL is faced with being off the air for the first time in 40 years but he has news that his backup unit is on its way from California. Dan had a wonderful time wading around among Gator and QFN members at the Hamfest.

We are all saddened about Dick, WA4PFK's illness. Letters, calls and cards are helpful. We also were saddened to learn of the illness of K4ZK and we will miss him too. 73 - Dan, W4DL.

FMSN Reported by Russ, KC4ZHN: Statistics for the month of February were normal indicating that we are taking care of our share of the traffic handling chores in Florida. We wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Rip,

AA4HT on his appointment as Assistant Section Manager for Southern Florida.

We wish Rip well in his appointment. At this time we also send our best wishes and prayers to Dick, WA4PFK and Bill, K4ZK for their early complete recovery from their illnesses.

I would like to spread the net workload out a little, so if there are any volunteers for net reps to either TPTN or QFN please send a message with your choice and days available. Those wanting to try net control will be put to work at once! How about inviting your other CW contacts to give us a call now and then?

FMSN welcomes Bob, KC4ZHF on his free weekends. Good to hear you in there from Fort Lauderdale. Our net reps are doing a good job of picking up and forwarding traffic and that you guys and gals work hard. We are trying to get you some relief. Until next month this is Russ on 3.651 MHz at 5:30PM every day. 73, Russ.

Note from Ed: History: Hunting in the files, an ARRL Certificate of Route Manager for Connecticut was found issued on 8-15-48 and reissued 7-20-50 to W1ORP. In those days the RM was the rough equivalent of today's Section Traffic Manager, our WX4J and AA4HT. It was just as difficult then to fill all the assignments as it is today. 73, Ed.

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Florida HF Nets, Abbreviations, Frequencies and Times

Who said CW was dead?

Calling all Hams CQ CQ CQ

-by Laura, WA9VND

DE WA9VND LAURA MGR
QFNS SSSLLLOOOWWW SPEED CW
TRAINING AND TRAFFIC NET.

Open Invitation.....

With the influx of the "No Code" licensees there are many new ops with no interest in CW, however there is a world of hams out there who are sitting back and just using phone mode. As manager of QFNS I would like to light a fire to preserve this net and wake up all the ops who for one reason or another, have put aside their key. Remember...back when you made your first contact as novice or tech?

What joy...I know I'll never forget it. I felt like I was on top of the world. Later came upgrades... and phone ... and the mike came too easy. However the joy of CW was never forgotten. Many of the old timers got their encouragement on QFNS and later became one of the big guns on QFN, just from starting on QFNS. Let's relive some of the "old days" and give QFNS a QNI. Come on, show us you can still do it. We are training some new NCS stations and they need to hear new calls and names, so soon they can get to be big guns on QFN and other nets. You had your break, give them one. It is always said, "What goes around, comes around." Well I believe CW will flourish again. Many folks out there will be giving some thought to challenging morse code again. We have the place for you to practice up. Dust off the key, wiggle your wrist and come on down. Remember CW was the basic beginning. DE YOU CALL QRU. That's how easy it is. The QRU means notraffic, but that is ok with us, let's just hear you. I promise it won't hurt. Some day an emergency will prove to you it is good to be bilingual. Let's keep the language alive and ready to use. Every night 8PM, 3715 kHz. Don't be bashful. We are easy to get along with. Try us, you will like us. Remember SSLLOOWW is the key word. Looking forward to hearing you. OK?

88, Laura, WA9VND Mgr. QFNS
Dit Dit

TIME	NET ABBREVIATION AND NAME	FREQ
0655	FPTN Fla. Phone Tfc Net	3940
0730 (SAT)	AIN ARRL Information Net	3940
0730 (SUN)	Fla. Trader's Net	3945
0745	Waterway Net	7268
0800 (SAT)	SFAN South Fla. ARES Net	3940
0800 (TUES)	Buckaroo Tfc Net	7248
0800	SOUTHCARS	7251
0830	GN Gator Net	3651/7061
0900 (EXC SUN)	NFAN North Fla. ARES Net	3950
0900 (SUN)	Swap Net	7275
1000 (WED)	Swap Net	7251
1145	FMTN Fla. Midday Tfc Net	7247.5
1330 (SUN)	FSARA Fla. Shrine Am Radio Ass'n	7236 +/-QRM
1500 (SUN)	QCWA Qtr Cent. Wireless Ass'n	14347
1630	FPON Fla. Public Opns Net	3908
1700	TPTN Tropical Phone Tfc Net	3940/7243
1730	FMSN Fla. Medium Speed Tfc Net	3651/7061
1800	FAST/E South Fla. Tfc Net (Early)	3940
1830/1930	NFPN North Fla. Phone Net	3950
1900	Martin County Ragchew Net	3985
1900	QFN/E All Fla. CW Tfc Net (Early)	3651/7061
1900 (SUN)	Sailfish Net - West Palm Beach	28425
1900 (MON)	Manatee County ARES Net	28450
1900 (TUES)	Pinellas County ARES Net	28450
1900 (TUES)	Mosquito Net - Orlando Chapter	28333
1900 (WED)	Titusville Mosquito Net	28333
1930 (MON /FRI)	Swap Net	3898
1930 (WED)	Candy's Swap Net	3945
2000	QFNS All Fla. Slow CW Tfc Net	3715
2030 (MON)	Wacky Wingdinger Net (NE Fl)	28390
2030	So. Brevard Tech & Ragchew Net	29200
2030 (MON)	ENTIN Everglades Novice/Tech Net	28375
2200	QFN/L All Fla. CW Tfc Net (Late)	3651
2230	FAST/L South Fla. Tfc Net (Late)	3940

PLEASE SENT CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO:

Bill Britton, KB4VOL
8703 S.E. Jardin St.
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
By Packet: KB4VOL @ KB4VOL

Top Twenty Trafficers - February 1995

-by KA4FZI and WX4J

Station	Total	Station	Total
1 W3CUL	3,122	11 N4SS	419
2 WX4H	1,431	12 KE4DNO	419
3 W3VR	1,119	13 WV5Z	320
4 K4FQU	1,049	14 AB4EA	292
5 KB6ECH	1,018	15 AB4XK	260
6 AA4HT	717	16 WD4IIO	242
7 WA9VND	672	17 W4DL	216
8 KB4WBY	579	18 N4RHJ	196
9 NR2F	523	19 WA4EIC	196
10 K4SCL	438	20 KC4ZHF	185

North Florida BBS Totals - Feb. 1995

-by Dave Sutherland, N4GMU

Call	Bul	Pers	NTS	Total
AA4RU	7560	2667	48	10275
K4GBB				
K4OZS	3857	239	9	4105
KB4T	1912	458	3	2373
KE4COV	3322	331	29	3682
N4GMU	1740	1017	61	2818
N4GXX	3559	288	16	3863
N4JTS	1848	167	14	2029
N0ZO	85	5435	65	5588
WB4NOD	2730	635	116	3481
WN4IIV	3697	966	39	4702
W1FJI				
WX4J	36	1168	774	1978
W4WEB	3538	390	20	3948
N4ZKF	11200	1210	316	12726
KK4CQ	1357	0	188	1545
KB9GQT	94	721	23	838
Total NTS Traffic			1297	

Traffic Hounds - February 1995

-by Rip, AA4HT

Net	QNI	Avg	QTC	Avg	Ses	Mgr	QTC/QNI
QFN	829	14.8	768	13.7	56	AB4XK	0.93
SWFTN	520	21.7	529	22	24	K4FQU	1.02
GN	171	6.1	361	12.9	28	W4DL	2.1
FMTN	532	19.1	320	11.4	28	WA4NDA	0.6
SEFTN	1,150	41.1	311	11.1	28	KD4GR	0.27
TPTN	652	23.3	266	9.5	28	WX4J	0.41
FAST	588	10.5	177	3.2	56	KE4ESV	0.3
NFAN	970	40.4	171	7.1	24	WA4NDA	0.18
FMSN	253	9	169	6	28	KC4ZHN	0.67
NFPN	1,188	42.4	135	4.8	28	KQ4YD	0.11
QFNS	195	6.9	74	2.6	28	WA9VND	0.38
FPON	224	8	52	1.9	28	WB4GCK	0.23
LCATTN	678	24.2	50	1.8	28	AC4MJ	0.07
SPARC	557	19.9	28	1	28	N4ZMQ	0.05
PBTN	1,051	43.8	27	1.1	24	KE4CGQ	0.03
DEN	283	70.8	16	4	4	N4LTT	0.06
ZULU	646	28.1	14	0.6	23	AD4BL	0.02
VTEN	131	4.9	14	0.5	27	KE4DNO	0.11
GARSN	150	7.9	10	0.5	19	KQ4YD	0.07
PBCEN	115	28.8	7	1.8	4	WB2OUK	0.06
AIN	37	12.3	2	0.7	3	WA4PFK	0.05
SFAN	50	16.7	1	0.3	3	KD4GR	0.02
PCAVN	139	34.8	1	0.3	4	KE4GSA	0.01
TOT		3,503			AVG		0.32

South Florida BBS Totals - Feb. 1995

Compiled by Bill Britton, KB4VOL

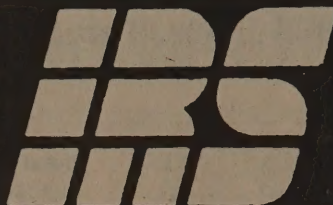
BBS	NTS	PERS	BUL	TOTAL
AA0TB	-NO REPORT-			
K0ZXF	0	674	7601	8275
K0ZXF-2	8	1873	7816	9717
(TPA1FL)				
K4TKU	0	12	118	130
KB4GBS	2	589	7391	7982
KB4GCZ	0	177	1588	1765
KB4UAH	-NO REPORT-			
KB4VOL	33	1442	5459	6834
KB4WUA	0	215	6622	6837
KC4HQS	-NO REPORT-			
KD4EMI	1	245	535	781
KD4GR	28	1408	11957	13393
KD4MJV	4	2040	1534	3578
KD4MZM	19	286	7740	8045
KD4VAA	0	22	391	413
KD4WBI	-NO REPORT-			
KD4WLE	1	414	1388	1803
KD4UBZ	-NO REPORT-			
KD4ZPP	0	213	6757	6970
KE2IX	412	1426	4899	6737
KE4AQU	-NO REPORT-			
KE4BXF	0	267	13041	13308
KF4OJ	0	61	929	990
KI4ZJ	-NO REPORT-			
KM4JQ	-NO REPORT-			
KN4YT	7	701	6387	7095
KP4EDL	4	1028	7101	8133
KR4PI	0	126	2866	2992
N1OUT	-NO REPORT-			
N4AWX	22	1743	1639	3404
N4HHP	23	4333	6631	10987
N4JOA	4	397	5629	6030
N4XEO	8	1339	4778	6125
N4ZIQ	4	722	872	1598
W11D	-NO REPORT-			
W4DPH	301	7645	5706	13652
W4MWP	18	585	6226	6829
W4OT	5	190	2783	2978
W8DUV	61	2823	7377	10261
WA2DXQ	2	867	67	937
WA2LKI	436	3957	7157	11550
WA4EAA	-NO REPORT-			
WB2WPA	11	791	4203	5005
WB4MOZ	13	1050	6066	7129
WB4TEM	17	1312	6108	7437
WD8IBY	109	1008	7791	8908
WH6AMX	0	278	15	293

NTS TOTAL: 1553

Quite a few new bbs's have joined us since last month. Welcome! However, please send your monthly bbs totals so they can be included. If you have any questions, or need the software utilities to generate your report, drop me a note with your name, address and size floppy needed. There's no charge. The utilities work with all types of bbs software except TCP/IP (NOS.) If you're running NOS let me know and I'll remove your call from the list. Remember, North Florida BBS's should send their reports to N4GMU @ N4GMU. South Florida BBS's to KB4VOL @ KB4VOL. Reports MUST be sent on the 1st covering bbs activity for the previous month. Please participate!

73... Bill, KB4VOL @ KB4VOL,
ARRL Packet Manager South Florida.

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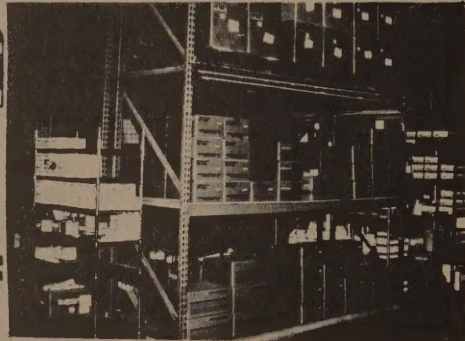
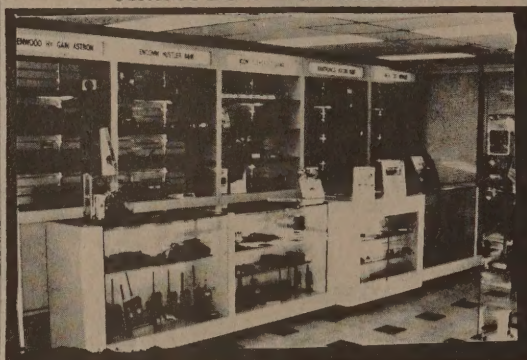


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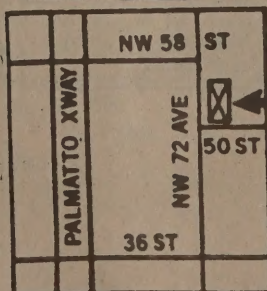


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Winter is coming to a close and many of our members will be leaving for the north country. Maybe some of you might stay. It's easy to get used to the warm weather. Try a summer down here, it's not bad at all. Try it, you will like it. We hope to see ya'all back again next winter. Many of our chapters meet all year 'round. Please send in your chapter reports to me and I will put them in Skip.

We all like to know what other chapters are doing and we can have an exchange of ideas. Try to get a program at each meeting as it increases interest in your chapter. Many of our chapters meet all summer so if you must leave, we will be looking for you next winter or when the snow flies. Good luck and keep looking for new members.

Pelican Chapter

At our February meeting, the attendance was 29 members and guests. Don Pice, W4PCO gave the treasurer's report and financially we are in the black. Two members of the QCWA National Board attended and they were John Edel, K8LBZ and Arthur Kunst, VE3CT.

Our members have been donating pill boxes to the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. It saves them quite a bit of money. Blanche Randles, W4GXZ gave a report on her visit to the Treasures of the Czars now on display. Jay Strom, K9BSL is Secretary of the chapter and also National Activities Manager. Blanche Randles is also National Director for Taping for the Blind. Other national directors at this meeting were Wes, W4COW, National Treasurer, Croft, VE3CT and John, K8LBZ, both of the latter National Directors. The program was given by Wes Randles, W4COW, National Treasurer, who reported his early days in broadcasting as an engineer.

The chapter owns a repeater on 2 meters on 145.29 and it is open to all. Reported by Jay Strom, K9BSL.

Hernando Chapter

Our Christmas party was held at Pier 688 in Brooksville and attended by 28 members and guests. We had five visitors from the Gulf Coast Chapter. The nominating Committee presented the following slate of Officers for 1995. President Jorday, WB2IMO; Vice President, Dick, WA4OMX; Treasurer, Bob,

W1KUL; Secretary, Eunie, W1UKR and Board Members, Frank, W1YTB and Win, K1BUM. Door prizes were won by Dick, WA4OMX, Ginny Henry and Terri Laubauch. Sorry to report that Eietha Tilton is in the hospital. Reported by Eunice Gordon, W1UKR.

Southeast Chapter

The hospitality booth at the Hamboree in February was a huge success. We had 96 visitors sign in, including Harry Dannals, W2HD, Wes Randles, W4COW and XYL Blanche, W4GXZ, and Leland Smith, W5KL. It was reported that Ray Mazzagatti, N4OG is a silent key and also Chuck Wardlow, WA4CGO of Key West.

Andy, W4IYT has begun an in-house QCWA Spotlight program and asked Don Search, W3AZD to initiate the program. Don gave us an interesting description of his ham radio background including his DX accomplishments and his 15 years as a DXCC Manager at ARRL headquarters. We welcome all members and visitors to our monthly meeting at noon the third Saturday of each month at our new meeting place - Her-Bets Restaurant; 3900 NW 79th Ave.; Miami, FL. Reported by Betty Clark, W4GGQ.

Gator Chapter

At our February meeting, the attendance was 41 members and guests. Visitors were Joe Swingle, W9DGW and XYL Betty. He is a new member of our National Chapter. Also visiting were National Director, John Edel, KB8BZ and XYL. John advised that their son John, N8HHJ has joined QCWA at the age of 40. He got his first ticket at age 15. Ren Whatley, WA4JVR has submitted his application to become a member of our chapter. Welcome aboard. Harry Cole, W4DLL was presented a 60-year certificate and Bart Bridge, W2ZYQ was given a plaque "In appreciation for Outstanding Service as President, 1992-1994." Harold Johnson, K4GVB and Virgil Lewis, W2NXW were in the hospital for a few

days. Dot Webber, XYL of Lou, K4HWS is home from rehabilitation after breaking her shoulder in a fall. Jean Kinney, XYL of Bob, W4BB is recovering from a stroke. Sissy Turner, wife of Bill, W2WV will have oral surgery on the 20th and Dortha Harned has a bad cold. Dabney Perry, W4BDY has been in the hospital since last May and is not active on the air. The program at this meeting was a talk by Mr. Larry Wilson from the Pinellas County Department of Consumer Affairs. His topic was "Be Careful Consumers." Our Treasurer gave a treasurer's report. We are in good financial condition. Our chapter meets on the air on 145.29 every Saturday morning at 9am and we have luncheon meeting the first Saturday of each month. Reported by Bart Bridge, W2ZYQ, Secretary.

Silent Keys

We regret to report the passing of the following Florida Amateur Radio Operators. Please notify **FLORIDA SKIP** of any silent keys in your area.

AA4MF - Harold "Cappy" Grigsby, Largo
WA1DHM - Renato S. Barreto, Largo
WB3LSW - Arnold S. Reich, Delray Beach
KB4ALV - Thomas Y. Bell, Bartow
N4EEQ - Phyllis A. Fiore, Jacksonville
KD4EST - Frank W. Doll, Ellenton
KB4ISY - Leonard B. Cieslak, Newport Richey
W4UBL - Walter P. Black, Sarasota
W6LED - Robert Mersey, Ruskin



**25 YEARS A
HAM?**

Got a question?

Write:

**159 E. 16th Street
Eugene, OR 97401**

Bob McDow Moves to the Top of the Knight's Net

The Knights of the Kilocycle is amateur radio's oldest net, organized on Christmas Day, 1929, and now in the 66th year of operation. The Knights meet every Sunday morning at 7:30 on 3910 Kilocycles. Become a lifetime member by making five consecutive check-ins. New members receive a lifetime membership certificate.

Bob McDow, W4KOG, North Palm Beach, moved to the top of the roll call, having made the most consecutive net check-ins. Bob replaced Jay, K9BSL, St. Pete, at the top of the list, Jay giving up the honor after his five Sundays at the

top of the list. Bob has been helping a friend put up a new tower and has been busy traveling to this year's crop of hamfests including Miami and Stuart. Bob also reports weekly to the net on all the upcoming hamfests.

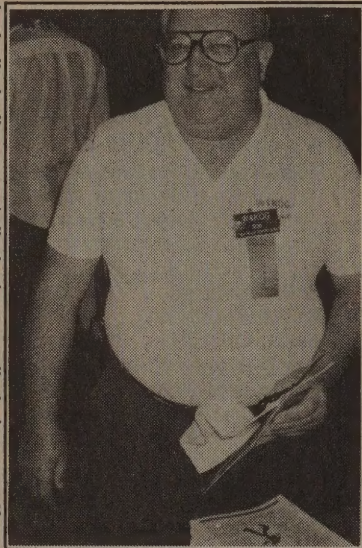
On March 5th, the net had a record number of check-ins for recent months. There were twenty-one checking in. We always welcome new and old members to call in and say hello.

George, W4MDV Dunedin, celebrated his 78th birthday in February. George performs the invocation each Sunday for the beginning of the net. George was with the Navy for 16 years as Chief Radioman and Chief Petty Officer. He also worked in TV repair and with General Electric as an electronics technician.

Marian, KC4MFT, New Port

Richey, reports on her tomato crop every year as planting season arrives. I think she and Bob, W4KOG have a friendly competition each season growing the best tomatoes in Florida. Marion tells of having a nice time at the Valentine Dance at the American Legion this year and has picked the last of her orange crop for this year.

George, K4AAP, St. Peters, Missouri has been a regular check-in over recent months. George is our "DX" Knight, checking in from the longest distance.



Bob McDow, W4KOG

Stan, W4JKK, Sebastian is still traveling to Miami to pick up a few things to take back to his new home in Sebastian. He reports that he has been canoeing on the lake at his home. We're all looking for Stan's marine mobile check-in.

Paul, N4LGD and Eva, Hudson are back from their 50th wedding anniversary trip to New Orleans.

I was able to do some traveling this month and contacted long-time member,

Clyde, W13X, Avon Park, while aeronautical mobile over his 2-meter repeater (145.330) in Central Florida. Did you know that Avon Park has Florida's longest city park? Extending down the city's main street is a mile-long park complete with lake, beach, gazebo and colorful gardens. Avon Park also has several historic buildings along its main street and a small lake for swimming and picnicking.

If you have any news or questions about the Kings of the Kilocycle net, send E-mail to: KQ4YM@AOL.COM or send by snail mail to my callbook address. Please join us any Sunday at 7:30AM. New members are most welcome. Until next month, 73.

ANTIQUE WIRELESS GROUP TO COMMEMORATE TESTS

The Antique Wireless Association is building a replica of the famous IBCG transmitter used in the 1921 ARRL Transatlantic Tests—the first amateur station to send a complete message across the Atlantic.

The AWA hopes to have the transmitter operating sometime this fall and to be able to work amateurs who participated in the 1921 Tests.

The AWA knows of only one licensed amateur (other than IBCG) still active who was heard by at the station set up by Paul Godley, in Scotland—Jim Russell, now W8BU, then 8BU. Another participant, Bob Morris, W2LV, also is still active. The AWA would like to hear from other amateurs who might have heard IBCG during the tests, including amateurs in the US. IBCG was operated from East Greenwich, Connecticut, by members of the pioneering Radio Club of America.

IBCG was on 230 meters in 1921—the AWA, using the call sign W2AN, will put the replica station on 160 meters. The transmitter will be identical in all respects except that a 204 vacuum tube, vintage 1923 or 1924, will be used.

Details of the ARRL Transatlantic Tests appeared in February 1922 QST and have been reprinted in several ARRL publications.

If you can help, contact AWA Curator Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, 59 Main Street, Bloomfield, NY 14469.

Charles H. Wardlow - WA4CGQ, Silent Key

The Keys amateur community lost one of its best loved members when Charlie Wardlow, WA4CGQ passed away on January 30th. He was 76.

Charlie was left blinded after a head injury in 1960. Soon after his injury, his enthusiasm for ham radio began and he was highly respected by the ham radio community for his contributions to the hobby.

WORKED ALL PALM BEACH COUNTY CONTEST

OPEN TO: All class licensed amateurs. Fixed or mobiles welcome.

DATE: Saturday, April 22, 1995

TIME: 1300 UTC (8:am local) until 1900 UTC (3:pm local)

OBJECT: To work as many different officially recognized municipalities within
Palm Beach County.

Bands & Frequencies: 15meters, CW 21.150 MHz, SSB 21.375 MHz.

10 meters, CW 28.150 - 28.200 MHz, SSB 28.300 - 28.400 MHz.

6 meters, CW 50.100 MHz, SSB 50.130-50.175 MHz, FM, 52.525 MHz.

2 meters, CW 144.06 - 144.10 MHz, SSB 144.20 - 144.30 MHz,

FM 146.4 - 146.5 MHz

EXCHANGE: CW: CQ PBM DE (your call) K repeated 3 times.

Voice: CQ Palm Beach Contest This is (your call) (your call phonetically) over.

A mobil station add, for CW, \M, for voice the word "Mobil". On contact you must give him your contact number and get his contact number for credit.

EXAMPLE: "CQ Palm Beach Contest. This is W4HAW, Whiskey Four Hotel Alpha Whiskey. You are my Number xx contact. You are 559 (cw), 5 by 9 (voice) in West Palm Beach. Roger?? "73" Good luck in the contest.

Logs: Logs must be kept as to, *Time, Station, Contact #, Band, Mode* and *Signal Report* (RST). Any discrepancies in log will not count.

Official W.P.B.A.R.C. Contest logs are available by mail. KD4VBI Sam Falco,
P.O. Box 9657, Riviera Beach, Fl. 33419-9657

POINTS: CW Contacts count 5 points, SSB Contacts count 3 points.

FM Contacts count 1 point for 2 meter and 2 points for 6 meters.

Multipliers: Each different municipality counts as one multiplier.

example: your total number of contacts add up to 50 points
and you worked 10 of the possible 38 municipalities in Palm Beach County.
your total score would be 500 points. 50 (qso points) X 10 (municipalities)

Awards: A plaque will be awarded to the top over all point earner.

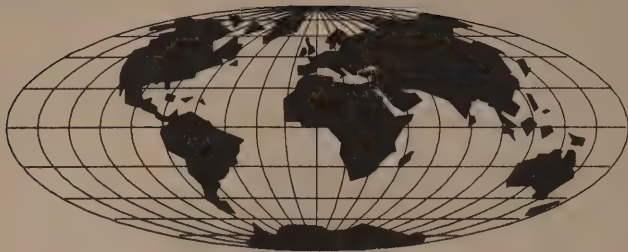
Certificates will be awarded to the next ten top point earners.

Certificates will be awarded to the highest point earners holding a
Technician, Technician Plus and Novice class license.

Send logs to: KD4VBI Sam Falco P.O. Box 9657 Riviera Beach, Fl. 33419

Logs must be post marked no later then May 15, 1995

DX Cluster



ANDORRA. Prefix hunters note that during March the prefix C37 will be used by members of URA with C31 prefixes.

ASCENSION ISLAND. Jim, N6TJ, signing ZD8Z, was very active during the past week. He was worked on 21250 kHz at 2000z on Wednesday. He plans to be in the ARRL DX SSB Contest over the weekend. QSL via VE3HO.

ASCENSION ISLAND. G4RWD is on the air as ZD8WD until September.

BAHRAIN. The DX News Letter (DXNL) reports that Admiral Scotty Redd of the US Navy, AKA K0DQ, is signing A92Q. Listen for his 40 meter CW. QSL via Box 116, Manama, Bahrain.

BERMUDA. Jeff, N2MZH, is supposed to become radio-active today at N2MZH/VP9 for a five day stint. He will be on all bands with a focus on WARC and low bands. Jeff prefers CW but will operate RTTY or SSB on request. He will be joined by VP9ID and operate VP9DX in the ARRL DX contest this weekend. QSL N2MZH/VP9 via N2MZH direct w/SASE via CBA. QSL VP9DX via WB2YQH direct w/SASE or via the bureau.

BOTSWANA. Dave, A22MN, will be on 160 meters at 0330z daily for the next week or two. He normally transmits on 1827 kHz and listens up 5. Dave will leave Botswana in mid-March. QSL via WA8JOC.

BOUVET ISLAND. UA9OBA will be doing some extensive traveling throughout the Antarctic and Arctic regions beginning in June. Along the way he plans to activate a few new IOTAs, namely Nanskian and Scott Islands. At the end of this long trip sometime in late October or November he hopes to operate from Bouvet, AN-002.

BHUTAN. Yasuo, JH1AJT, one of the A51/JH1AJT crew, hopes to return sometime this summer. He left all the rigs, antennas and amps in Bhutan.

CAMBODIA. Sarri, XU7VK, has received a special call sign, XU95HA, which he can use for special events, such as contests, and any special Cambodian or Hungarian celebration. QSL via HA0HW.

CARIBBEAN DXPEDITION. Mark, DL1XAQ, and Ralf, DL9XAT, will be on from four different IOTAs in the Caribbean. Here is their schedule. >From March 25 to 26, the Saint Vincent area, J8, NA-109. March 27 to April 1 from NA-025. April 1 to 4 from Saint Lucia area, J6, NA-108. April 4 to 8 from the Guadeloupe area, FG, NA-102. Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via their home call signs.

CAYMAN ISLANDS. John, NC8V, will be on the air from Little Cayman Island, NA 016, as ZF2JC/ZF8 from March 16 to 21. Most operating will probably be on IOTA frequencies, but he will try to work in the Novice CW subbands. John operates mostly SSB but will switch to CW on request. QSL via NC8V.

CONGO. DL1YFF is operating as TN1M and should remain active for another 3 or 4 weeks. Check 14239 kHz around 2115z.

CONGO. YL op Hazel was heard last weekend signing TN7OT on 14220 kHz around 1945z.

CONWAY REEF DXPEDITION UPDATE. Landing permission has been secured and licenses obtained. Three stations will be manned around the clock, requiring more than 14 hours operating time per operator per day for 10 days. The team consists of Mats, SM7PKK, Garry, NI6T, Nils, SM6CAS, Jun, JH4RHF, and Pekka,

OH1RY. They plan to be active March 24 to April 3, including the CQWW WPX SSB Contest. For CW and RTTY the call will be 3D2CU. 3D2CT will be used on SSB. QSL 3D2CU via G4WFZ. QSL 3D2CT via Mats Persson, SM7PKK, Zenithgatan 24 5, S-212 14 Malmo, Sweden.

EGYPT. Ahmed, SU3AM, is very active on 20 meter SSB and plans to be active until March 18. QSL via DL5ZBV.

ETHIOPIA. ET3BT is a fairly easy catch. Try 14226 kHz at 1945z.

EUROPA. Stations in QSO with FR5HG on 15 meter RTTY on Friday, March 3, report he will be active from Europa for 45 days starting March 8. Activity will be on RTTY, SSTV, SSB and CW on 40 through 10 meters.

EUROPA. FR5HG should be active through April 30 with CW, RTTY and SSB. He runs 500 watts to a log periodic antenna. QSL via F6FNU.

GUATEMALA. Scott, KA9FOX, will be operating "field day" style from atop a 6,000 foot mountain as either TG0AA or TG0DX. During the first week of March he will operate from TG9AJR as TG/KA9FOX.

ISRAEL. Riki, 4X4NJ, is active daily on 160 meters 20 minutes before and after his sunset. He can usually be found on or near 1830 kHz listening up. He needs ID, ND, NV, OR and UT to complete his WAS.

KUWAIT. Bob, 9K2ZZ, reportedly has improved his 160 meter antenna. Listen for him daily 0000z on 1832 kHz. QSL via W8CNL.

KUWAIT. Faisal, 9K2HA, reports that as of March 1, all foreign amateurs visiting Kuwait must sign 9K2/their home calls. Please be aware that some calls once issued to foreigners are now assigned to Kuwaiti nationals. For example, 9K2ZZ now belongs to Faisal, ex-9K2HA. QSL via ON6BY. As of March 1, 9K2ZZ is 9K2/N6BFM, 9K2ZC is 9K2/KI0K, and 9K2YY is 9K2/N0YKI.

LAOS. XW2A and XW1BOD have been active on 20 and 40 meter CW. 20 meter action is usually between 2300 and 0100z. Try between 1430 and 1700z and again between 2100 and 2230z for 40 meters. QSL XW1BOD via JA2BOD. QSL XW2A via JA2EZD.

LAOS. Reports from the Ohio/Penn and Tokyo PacketCluster networks indicate a station signing XW1 as being on the air. The Tokyo node reports the operator is JH1AJT. Check around 14195 to 14200 kHz between 1300 and 1400z, and again from 0000 to 0100z. QSL via JH1AJT.

MADAGASCAR. DL5UF, DK1CE and DF5WA will be active February 25 to March 10 on CW, SSB and RTTY, 160 through 10 meters.

MADAGASCAR. Ben, 5R8DS, reports Germans DL5UF, DK1CE and DF5WA will be active through March 10. 5R8EI has been worked on 7004 kHz between 2245 and 2315z from New England. QSL via DL2GBT. 5R8EJ has been worked on 1823 kHz at 0222z and 7008 kHz between 0315 and 0345z.

MALAWI. 7Q7LA was worked on 18153 kHz at 1945z from northern Illinois.

MALTA. Birgit, DL7VTZ, and Holger, DL7VTM, will be on Gozo Island from March 24 to April 7 signing 9H1TZ and 9H1TY, respectively. You may remember their recent DXpedition as TN2M and TN4U from the Congo. Plans are to participate in the CQWW WPX Contest on the 25th and 26th. Activity will be on all bands with 100 watts and wire antennas. QSL via DL7VRO.

MARIANA ISLANDS. Frank, AH0W/OH2LVG, plans to be active from March 23 to 30. Most action will be on the low and WARC bands. Listen for his CW, SSB and the possibility of satellite work on RS-12 and RS-13. QSL via KE7LZ.

MAURITANIA. 5T5JC was quite active all bands this past week and worked on 24900 kHz at 2015z as well as 28468 kHz at 2050z.

Continued on page 15

We've covered the basics of packet radio, networks, and taken a look at BBS's in past column. Now we'll move on to two excellent **TERMINAL PROGRAMS**, which will defiantly increase your enjoyment of packet (and other modes, if your TNC supports them).

Those of you who sent disks for the "YAPP" terminal program received a bonus from me in the form of "paKet 6.0". This is one of the better terminal programs for packet (and other modes if your TNC supports them). We'll be looking at both this program and another one called "Lan-Link" over the next several issues of Florida Skip. These are both "shareware" DOS programs, and can often be found at places that sell shareware, as well as on some of the larger ham radio bulletin boards around the country.

"Shareware" programs are those that permit you to use them for a defined length of time for free, and then require (or strongly suggest) that you pay the author for his or her efforts. In return for forking over your hard earned dollars, you will either receive a registered version of the program (possibly with additional features enabled and annoying reminders to "register" removed, or the next version of the program for free.

By the way, I have the latest versions of both **LAN-LINK** and **PaKet** (version 6.1) and will be happy to supply either or both if you do the "usual" (send me a 1.2 met or 1.4 meg 3 or 5 inch floppy, in a mailer with return postage and mailing label, along with 2 dollars to me at the address you'll see at the end of this column).

We'll be delving into the mysteries of paKet first, and will then progress to Lan-Link, which has more features than any terminal software I have seen (and I've seen a LOT). Having said that, I'll add that paKet is no slouch either, and is perhaps the EASIEST program to install and configure that I've ever seen. It will work with just about any TNC, including the original T.A.P.R. TNC-1...something that many other programs cannot do.

This time we'll install **PaKet** and make a connect.

Let's get down to the nitty gritty. If you received the "official" **PaKet** distribution disks, insert the disk with the "install" file in drive A or drive B and type "install". The program will prompt you from that point on, asking what directory you wish the program and it's files place in on your hard drive. asking you

for your callsign, and what communications port (and speed) you want the program installed for. This means that you must know whether your TNC is (or will be) connected to COM1 or COM2, and will also need to know what "abaud" or "terminal baud" rate the TNC is set for. If you will be running paKet in a DOS window while using the "Windows" program, not to worry! **PaKet** is smart enough to know if it is running in "Windows", and also bright enough to use EMS memory AND will detect the presence of a 16550 serial i/o chip. (NO...it won't make your coffee, feed the cat, or wake you up in the morning!)

After answering these questions, the install program will copy all necessary files to your specified directory, including all necessary documentation. By the way, one of the nifty things about **PaKet** is that it has ON LINE documentation. This means you can press a function key, and read about each of the programs features, one-by-one, as you need to.

The author even includes a comment or two on the Internet and TCP/IP, which while quite superficial, is a good start at explaining these complex systems to someone who has never read about them.

The install program concludes with a invitation for you to make additional configuration changes (which you do by pressing "alternate z" on your keyboard.

The program comes with most of these settings pre-configured to the extent that it will work without you making any changes, but as you get comfortable with **paKet**, you will find yourself looking at the various configuration options, and changing them to meet your needs. We'll get into all this in more detail next time.

Once paKet has been configured,

you will find yourself sitting in from of a screen which will be made up primarily of the "receive" window and a small 2 line transmit window at the bottom of your monitor. **PaKet** will do some hand-shaking with your TNC, and inform you if it can't "talk" to the TNC for some reason. You will be given the opportunity to try again, ignore the problem (not a good idea) or abort.

Some common causes for problems here are:

1. You specified the wrong COM port or baud rate when installing paKet.
2. You do not have the proper wires connected at the RS-232 port.
3. Your TNC is in KISS mode.
4. Your TNC is TURNED OFF (!).

To make a connect, you can either do a standard "c callsign" or you can get fancy and press "alternate c". This brings up a little pop-up window (**PaKet** has a lot of these) in which you can enter the callsign and digi (or ROSE path) to the station you want to connect to). Look at the bottom of this window for instructions on how to enter, revise, and save your information.

The first time you bring up this window, it will be empty (of course) but once you have populated it with information, then all you need to do is enter an "alternate c", move the cursor down to the call you want to connect to, and hit "enter". **PaKet** will do the rest!

If you want a copy of **PaKet** 6.1 (which will run on anything from a old original IBM XT to a shiny new 486 or Pentium, just send the usual disk, mailer, postage, and 2 dollars to me at the address below.

73, till next time...

Joe WD4KAV @
WD4KAV.#STU.FL.USA.NOAM
Joe Burnham 321 Holly Ave. Port
Saint Lucie FL 34952

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High Performance Configurations

Last week as I was perusing a computer magazine, I stopped at a sale ad for computer ads and was struck by a interesting listing. Quantum has released the Lightning line of hard drives. This in itself is no big deal but for one thing. The price for the SCSI-2 version of the Lightning drive is the same as that for IDE. If you have read this column before, I have always described the SCSI interface as the better choice for a high performance computer but I have always cringed at the several hundred dollar price difference between SCSI and IDE. Well, now the bulk of that difference in price is gone.

SCSI systems have matured since their introduction over ten years ago. The SCSI-2 specification is solid and the bulk of the devices and controllers on the market meet the spec. DOS 6.22 and Windows for Workgroups have no trouble finding the SCSI disk controller and implementing fast disk access and transfers. The SCSI bus has internal and external expansion capability. A single bus can have up to seven devices and these devices include Hard drives, CD-ROM readers, WORM drives, Optical drives, Tape drives, Flat bed scanners and even printers. The transfer rate is 5 Megabytes per second synchronous in standard SCSI-2, 10 Megabytes per second in Fast SCSI-2 and 20 Megabytes per second for Fast, Wide SCSI-2. As a comparison, IDE is 3 Megabytes per second and my experience has it that 1.5 Megabytes per second is typical. SCSI disk controller kits come with software for mounting CD-ROM's and removable media and COREL SCSI (a universal SCSI driver package) can talk to just about anything. SCSI drives have a configuration stored in memory. When the SCSI controller interrogates the bus, the drive who responds provides his name, model number and configuration to the controller. This concept is called plug and play. There is no need to know the number of heads, cylinders and sectors of the drive. The interface figures it out for you.

The Enhanced IDE interface or EIDE (some call it FAST ATA) has become available to address the serious limitations of the original IDE specification.

The EIDE specification is new and I have found that some drives do not work together as master/slave. IDE still requires the operator to program the drive configuration into the CMOS battery backed memory although many BIOS programs will auto configure. EIDE can operate at up to 11 Megabytes per second and is competitive with Fast SCSI-2 for speed. EIDE can interface to up to four drives and include support for CD-ROM readers. EIDE has solved the 500 Megabyte limitation of IDE so you don't need special partitioning software to use a larger (and increasingly necessary) hard drive.

OK., I have convinced you SCSI is the way to go for your PC. How do you buy a system configured this way. Unfortunately, 99% of the preassembled computers, even the multimedia systems use IDE hard drives and AT CD-ROM's. The only way to configure a SCSI system is piecemeal. But, now that the price of SCSI is more competitive with IDE, I believe the preassembled systems will start taking advantage of the increased performance and flexibility.

Steve

Vanity call schedule

The Federal Communications Commission form necessary for applying for an Amateur Radio vanity call sign—Form 610-V—will not be available until after May 1.

Amateurs who call the FCC to request the form before then will not have their names recorded and it will be necessary for them to request the form again, when it is available.

Applications for amateur vanity call signs will not be accepted until after the forms are available, i.e., until sometime after May 1. The FCC will make a public announcement of the date of opening of the first "gate" for vanity call sign applications.

Beginning May 1, 1995, FCC Form 610-V may be requested by calling the FCC Forms Distribution Center at 800-418-3636. Or, send an SASE to ARRL-VEC anytime, for a form 610-V by return mail as soon as they are available after May 1. Write "Form 610-V request" on the outer envelope.

Antique Wireless Group to commemorate tests

The Antique Wireless Association is building a replica of the famous 1BCG transmitter used in the 1921 ARRL Transatlantic Tests—the first amateur station to send a complete message across the Atlantic.

The AWA hopes to have the transmitter operating sometime this fall and to be able to work amateurs who participated in the 1921 Tests.

The AWA knows of only one licensed amateur (other than 1BCG) still active who was heard by at the station set up by Paul Godley, in Scotland—Jim Russell, now W8BU, then 8BU. Another participant, Bob Morris, W2LV, also is still active. The AWA would like to hear from other amateurs who might have heard 1BCG during the tests, including amateurs in the US. 1BCG was operated from East Greenwich, Connecticut, by members of the pioneering Radio Club of America.

1BCG was on 230 meters in 1921—the AWA, using the call sign W2AN, will put the replica station on 160 meters. The transmitter will be identical in all respects except that a 204 vacuum tube, vintage 1923 or 1924, will be used.

Details of the ARRL Transatlantic Tests appeared in February 1922 QST and have been reprinted in several ARRL publications.

If you can help, contact AWA Curator Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, 59 Main Street, Bloomfield, NY 14469.

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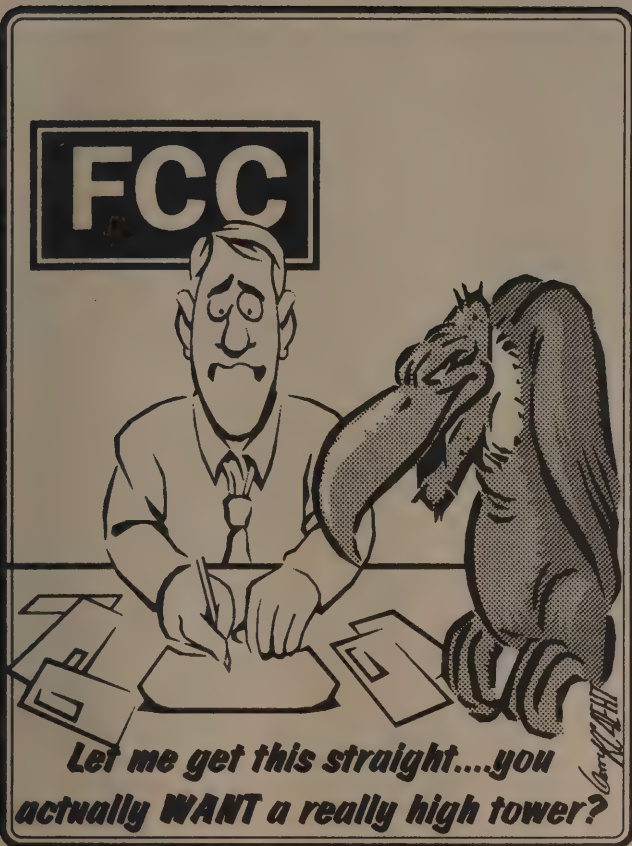
c/o Editor

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DX Cluster - Continued from page 12

MONTSEERRAT. Members of the Woodridge Wireless group will be operating VP2MFM March 1 to 6, including the ARRL SSB DX contest. Outside of contest hours, Denis, WD4KXB, will operate RTTY. Other operators may be on 160 through 6 meters. QSL via WD4KXB.

NAMIBIA. DL7UTR and DL7UJU were reported to be signing V5/their home calls through March 19 on CW and SSB on all bands. However a station signing V52UUU has been very active and worked on 3505 kHz at 0443z, 3511 at 0505z, 7001 at 0532z, 7004 at 2149z and 7009 at 2201.

PACIFIC DXPEDITION, BELAU, MICRONESIA AND GUAM. Tasy, JA6VZB, plans to operate as KC6VW March 9 to 17, as V63BM from March 17 to 20, and AH0T/KH2 on March 20. His primary activity will be 160 meters, listening on 1823 kHz. For North Americans try from 1020 to 1500z. Europeans should try from 1900 to 2200z.

PACIFIC DXPEDITION. Tasy, JA6VZB, will be active from Belau as KC6VW until March 17. Listen for him from Micronesia as V63BM March 17, 18 and 19, and Guam as AH0T/KH2 March 19 and possibly longer. He will work all bands using CW, SSB and RTTY, but concentrate on 160 meters and RTTY. Only QSL via the bureau to JA6BSM.

PAKISTAN. Reports indicate that Rudi, DK7PE, is in Pakistan. He is looking for an active DXer in Karachi so he may be on the air soon.

QSL INFO. Wayne, WB6EQX, reports receiving cards for 9K2MU and KG4DX. The correct QSL route for 9K2MU is via WA4JTK. For KG4DX, QSL via K0IEA.

SAINT LUCIA. Peter, DK1RP, will be on the air as J6/DK1RP

from April 11 to 29. He will operate primarily CW on the WARC bands. QSL via the bureau.

SOUTH SHETLAND. DL7VTS continues to be active as DP1KGI from Ardley Island. He has been on 20 meter CW, SSB and RTTY, usually between 2300 and 0300z. Check out 7050/7185 kHz for his SSB on 40 meters at 0345z. QSL via DD6UAB.

SPRATLY ISLANDS. Yet another group has announced plans to operate from "Spratly." This operation is to be from Layang Lagang Island, the Malaysian claimed part of the Spratly Islands. This DXpedition will be from March 29 to April 3. The operator list consists of JA9AA, JA9AG, JR9GBJ, JS1QHO, 9M6BZ, 9M6JC and 9M6ST. Two of three stations will be on the air full time, with plans to operate CW, SSB, RTTY and SSTV signing 9M0A. For CW try 1825, 3502, 7002, 10102, 14002, 18070, 21002, 24940, 28002 and 50110 kHz. On SSB try 3790, 7080, 14195, 18115, 21295, 24990, 28495 and 50110 kHz. For RTTY try 7029, 14080, 21080 and 28080 kHz. SSTV will be on 14230 and 21330 kHz. QSL via JA9AG.

SRI LANKA. Willem, ON6TZ, and Gerard, ON4ASQ, will be active until April 1.

TANZANIA. Franco, I4LCK will be active from Mafia Island, AF 054, March 21 to April 2. His call sign will be 5H3CK. He plans to activate two new IOTAs, namely Boydu and Nyuni Islands. He will also be active in the CQ WW WPX Contest from Mafia. QSL to I4LCK.

THAILAND. A group of Thai hams will activate a new prefix March 11 and 12 using the call E25CMU. They plan to be active on all bands with CW, SSB, SSTV and satellite. Some operators mentioned are leader HS1AAM, HS1CDX and HS3DF. QSL via PO Box 19, Fang, Chiang Mai THAILAND 50110 or via the bureau.

TOGO. 5V7MD was active on a net on 14247 kHz at 2300z.

TUNISIA. Danny, ON4VT, was reportedly traveling to 3V-land in late February with plans to operate club station 3V8BB. To date there have been no PacketCluster spots on the New England network for this one. No documentation for this operation has been received by the DXCC Desk.

TUNISIA. 3V8BB has submitted proper documentation. Cards will now be accepted for DXCC credit.

WESTERN SAHARA. Tim, KC0PA, has been very active as KC0PA/SO, especially on 12 and 17 meters. Check 18126 kHz between 1645 and 1800z and 24950 kHz between 1415 and 1645z. Also check 3780 kHz around 2350z. QSL via Timothy Hardy, 137 Kelli Circle, Byron, GA 31008. No documentation for this operation has been received by the DXCC Desk, and the licensing authority in the past has issued only complete call signs.

ZAIRE. Peter, ON6TT, continues to be active as 9Q5TT. He was recently operating RTTY on 20 meters starting at around 2030z.

ZAMBIA. Brian, 9J2BO is on the air daily on 1825 kHz CW around 0400z. He also operates 10 and 15 meter CW between 1330 and 1545z. George, 9J2GA has been on 1847 kHz SSB between 0345 and 0415z, and also 80 meter SSB between 0415 and 0445z.

ZONE 23. A DXpedition to the Tuva Republic of Russia is being planned by the Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service, FAIRS, and Friends of Tuva, FOT. Yuri, UA4LCQ, and Pat, AA6EG, are organizing a team of American operators to go to the capital city of Kyzyl. The DXpedition should run for nearly a month starting in late May or early June. Interested parties should contact Pat Barthelow, AA6EG, 1388 Boles Court, Seaside CA 93955, (408) 394-5531, or via the Internet to 4947@mgs.com.

John, KK9A, will be on the air as VP2MFP from February 28 through March 6. He plans an 80 meter single band operation during the contest. QSL via WD9DZV.

The Philippine Amateur Radio Association, PARA, will be leading a team to the Spratly Islands and operate as DU0K on all bands and modes from April 10 to 16. QSL via DU9RG.

Mel and his wife used their savings to purchase a piece of commercial property on Cudjoe Key. They planned to erect a tower and start a radio paging business to supplement Mel's military pension. Despite being assured that property was properly zoned for the paging business, the application for a permit to erect the tower was immediately rejected. The zoning appeal board said that property must be zoned for General Use and noted that even a repair shop on the land would be illegal. The board said they would grant them a permit to work out of the back of their pickup truck but the Gossards knew this would be impossible.

Mel and his wife mortgaged their home in order to buy "properly zoned" land and applied for the tower permit.

Mel said, "I wondered why it was taking so long on the second application. Then I found out that the Big Pine Key Deer Refuge had been granted 200 acres next to ours and they planned to start another Key Deer refuge on Cudjoe Key, right next to our proposed tower."

Apparently the tower permit piqued the interest of several other governmental agencies, especially the Key Deer Refuge infantrymen who report to the US. Fish and Wildlife. Also lurking in the shadows was a battalion of green beret environmental activists who perceive themselves as the benevolent protectors of an ecosociety whose jurisdiction embraces whatever numskull notion strikes their fancy.

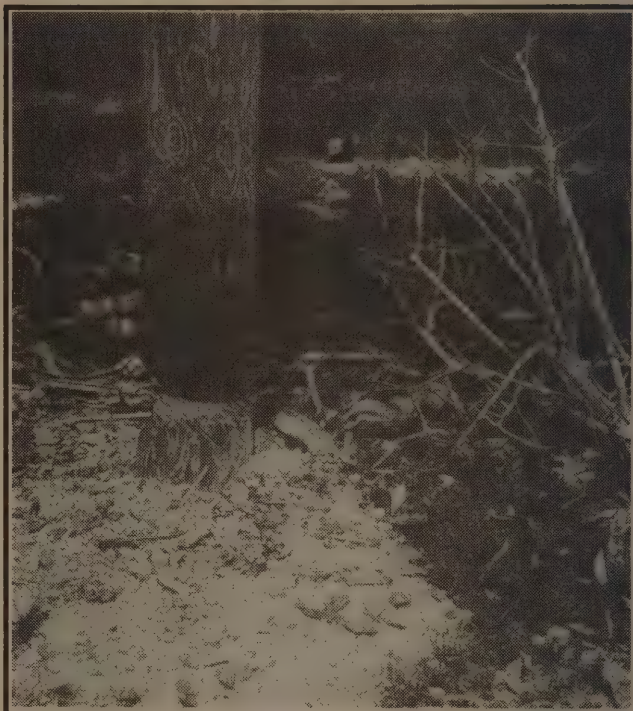
It appeared that the green environmental zealots were recruited to dish out a generous serving of their familiar brand of environmental terrorism. The activists embarked on a crusade of terrorism that created a living hell for Mel and Carmelita Gossard for many years. They besieged the county commissioners and zoning board officials with phone calls demanding they call a halt to the tower permit. There were over a dozen documented violations in the sheriff's office; the greens disregarded posted No Trespassing signs, defaced permit signs, peppered the property with graffiti, stole the tower permit signs, brought in a bulldozer and damaged a roadway, and led an invasion of 4-wheel vehicles that damaged the property.

In one of their more ambitious fits of terrorism, the greenies focused their attention on the 3-phase power lines on the Gossard property. One of the poles was sent crashing to the ground, a mass of cross arms, wire and insulators, chopped in two with an ax. The other poles were severely damaged.

Mel and Carmelita were successful in mitigating their way through the maze of agency complaints. Even though their tower permit was still not issued, they decided to erect a small 12' by 20' building that would serve as a storage shed and ham shack. The building triggered another outrage that required the Gossards to appear at four separate court hearing in the course of a year. They were charged with "Taking of an Endangered Species."

It seems that a bald eagle nest was discovered nearly a mile from their land. "Erecting a tower or building was considered the taking of an endangered species." Mel said, "We didn't even have a tower at that time and I couldn't see how the building could be considered the taking of anything, let alone a bald eagle."

Meanwhile Carmelita was attempting to find out the exact location of the eagle's nest but the agencies refused to cooperate. When she attempted to use the "Freedom of Information Act" she received an angry, early morning telephone call (before breakfast) from a local "Key Deer Official". Within minutes, Carmelita suffered a severe heart attack that landed her in the hospital.



Environmental zealots demonstrated their prowess with an ax on a power pole during their mindless reign of terror.

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Mel Gossard (K3ML) and his wife Carmelita (W3YWK), shown in their ham shack, hope to live out their lives in paradise - almost lost.

FAR Scholarships to be awarded

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, DC plans to administer fifty-six (56) scholarships for the academic year 1995-1996 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds five of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining fifty-one (51) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.



Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, on their nets, during training classes, and in their club newsletters.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 1995 from:

FAR Scholarships
6903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

mental anguish to some divine species of rats.

An uneasy peace exists on Cudjoe Key and the Gossards appear free to live out their "life in paradise". But Mel (K3ML) is now 73 years old and Carmelita (W3YWK) soon will be. The last ten years of their lives has been a living hell for which they were forced to pay out of their own pocket. "They didn't quite kill us but boy did they make us suffer for those ten long years." Mel said bitterly. "Next time our government calls for help, I *won't* be there. Neither will my sons or my grandsons. Thanks a lot America!"

Many of the readers may wonder what impact the tower had on the Key Deer Refuge that the environmentalists fought so hard to protect. Well folks....most of the deer died. But they died from lack of water. The refuge was bulldozed and water from the sea was allowed flow in to create a wetland. The fish will thrive and create a fishermen's paradise. Only one hitch, fishermen will be barred from the area. The government moves in mysterious ways and the reason for the ways may forever remain a mystery.

After a year of legal wrangling, the Gossards were exonerated of the charges that they were guilty of taking of an endangered species. In fact, the entire legal charade was a hoax since the bald eagle was *not* an endangered species in the state of Florida. The Florida legislature previously refused to ratify a federal law to that effect since it was a known fact that Florida ranks second only to Alaska in bald eagle population. Despite winning the lawsuit, the judge would not approve reimbursement of legal fees totaling over \$35,000.00. "A huge mortgage, \$35,000 in legal bills, nearly ten years of unmerciful harassment and we still had nothing to show for it." Mel said.

After they resolved the lawsuit and nearly ten years after they decided to start their little business, Mel and Carmelita finally got their tower up. The paging system is up and running. Mel says they have a 2-meter ham repeater antenna at 400 feet and the ham club has a packet node antenna at the 300 foot level.

The Gossard's dream of retirement in "paradise" was interrupted and nearly wrecked by a band of green environmental whackos often operating under the auspices of the government. One wonders when towers will be found to contribute to the holes in the Ozone layer or cause

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Senator Graham and ARRL Respond re Brower Case

Henry Huth, WA4WKO, of Seminole, Florida has been active for several years in addressing the issues surrounding tower controversies. Mr. Huth stated that he has corresponded with the ARRL on the Brower case and related matters and he stated, "Frankly, Imlay and the ARRL are not in the business of representing hams legally. Truthfully, it takes a hell of a lot of correspondence to activate them on most any annoying issue."

Mr. Huth as been in the process of contacting a few US House representatives, The Florida Governor, Senators and the hams that setup HR203 and other antenna regulations. "It takes time and the hams are apathetic," he stated, "And it's expensive to me also. I'm retired and 82 now, so I can't raise a ruckus like I'd like to. It seems that few people really care."

Senator Bob Graham of Florida responded to Mr. Huth as follows:

The Graham response

Dear Henry:

Thank you for your letter of February 6 regarding the difficulties being experienced by Mr. and Mrs. Brower relative to their amateur radio transmission tower/antenna.

I have been in direct contact with Mr. and Mrs. Brower and have contacted the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on their behalf. The FCC has responded to my inquiry and a copy of their reply was forwarded to Mr. And Mrs.. Brower.

I regret that I am unable to be of further assistance in this matter, however, I appreciate your sharing your views and concerns with me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,
Bob Graham
United States Senator

The ARRL response

William Bell, K4AVH of St. Petersburg, Florida received a very detailed response from David Sumner, K1ZZ, Executive Vice President of the ARRL and it presented here in its entirety:

Dear William:

Thank you for your expression of concern about the outcome of the Brower case in Florida. Because most reports of

the case have been incomplete, it may be helpful to you to have some background.

The Browsers live in a subdivision called Suburban Acres in Vero Beach, Florida. Their deed contains a number of restrictive covenants, among them one that prohibits any noxious or offensive activity on any lot, and any activity that may be or may become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood. Another covenant prohibits buildings on lots other than one detached dwelling not to exceed two stories in height.

In October 1990, the Browsers erected an 87-foot-tall tower/antenna system and operated it with a kilowatt HF transmitter. A number of neighbors complained, alleging a variety of interference to electronic equipment. Failing to obtain satisfaction, 15 neighbors filed suit in Florida Circuit Court on December 5, 1990. The suit sought relief on several grounds, including common law nuisance and violation of the restrictive covenants.

Two weeks later, the Browsers sought removal of the case from state to federal court on the grounds that the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over radio interference. On February 25, 1991, the federal court ruled that the common law nuisance complaint was preempted, and dismissed that claim. However, the Court noted that "With respect to the remainder of Plaintiff's claims, Defendants admit that they are solely a matter of state law." Therefore, the Court exercised its discretion and remanded these other claims to the state Circuit Court.

The case went to trial in state Circuit Court. In the course of the trial, the Browsers testified that they had previously used a smaller antenna and that there had been no complaints from the neighbors. Their neighbors also testified that their problems started with the installation of the 87-foot tower/antenna. Judgment was rendered on January 25, 1993. The state Circuit Court decided that both the presence of the antenna and the existence of interference violated the provisions of the covenant, and issued an injunction ordering the tower/antenna to be removed and prohibiting the Browsers from "further amateur radio transmission from their Suburban Acres Subdivision home." The Browsers filed notice of appeal to the District Court of Appeal of Florida, 4th District, on February 2, 1993. At this point the ARRL was contacted, and our General Counsel submitted a Brief Amicus Curiae in support of the appeal.

On September 9, 1994, the Court of Appeal filed its opinion on the appeal. The Court of Appeal affirmed parts of the Circuit Court's decision, and reversed other parts. The Court of Appeal found that the tower/antenna violated the restrictive covenant prohibiting any noxious or offensive activity on any lot, and any activity that may be or may become an annoyance or nuisance to the neighborhood, because the record from the trial court established a casual link between the installation of the 87-foot tower/antenna and the subsequent interference. It did not rule on whether the trial court was correct in deciding that the tower/antenna also violated the second covenant, limiting the number and size of buildings.

However, the Court of Appeal found that the injunction was overly broad in that it even went beyond the relief sought by the plaintiffs, who had sought to prevent interference with their televisions, radios, telephone, and computers and had not sought a ban on all transmissions. The Court of Appeal said:

In the instant case, there are some amateur radio transmissions that the Browsers could make from their home that would not cause any interference with the neighbors' electronic devices....Therefore, the injunction issued by the trial court is overly broad because it prohibits all radio transmissions, regardless of whether they interfered with the plaintiffs' electronic devices.

The Court of Appeal directed the trial court to modify the injunction so as to limit it to those transmissions that interfere with the neighbors' use of their electronic devices.

The Browsers sought certification of the issue to the Florida Supreme Court as a question of extreme public importance, the only realistic way of getting the matter before the Supreme Court under Florida law, but their request was denied. A petition for rehearing by the Court of Appeal was denied despite a Statement of Support filed by the ARRL in which we argued that even as modified, the injunction intrudes on FCC jurisdiction in the licensing of radio stations and is an unreasonable burden on interstate commerce.

On December 15, 1994, the Browsers were ordered by the Circuit Court to remove the tower/antenna within 35 days; to make no further amateur ra-

Continued on page 25

Having worked a number of HamFests over the past few years, I found that the setup day prior to the opening is sometimes as much fun as the days on which the public is admitted.

I took some pictures that will let you know how the show looks on setup day.

The first thing that a vendor needs to do is to pick up folders with a tax form, lunch tickets for the vendors only, and badges indicating that he is a vendor. This also comes with a big smile from the lady shown in PICTURE #1. When unusual questions or situations come up, the walkie talkie comes out and within minutes someone will have the answer.



PICTURE #2 shows what the vendors see when they arrive. Booths are set up with tables with drapes stapled to the aisle side of each. Each space has two tables in various configurations. These tables are set front and back in the original setting. Vendors will adjust this arrangement so that potential customers will be able to get out of the aisles. It is felt that this makes it easier for those looking at the various items being displayed. Others prefer to block entrance to the stock which is stacked or placed under the tables. Flags are in place and power cords have been provided where needed. Backdrops of blue and white cloth are in place and a sign indicating the space number and the name of the vendor is prominently displayed.



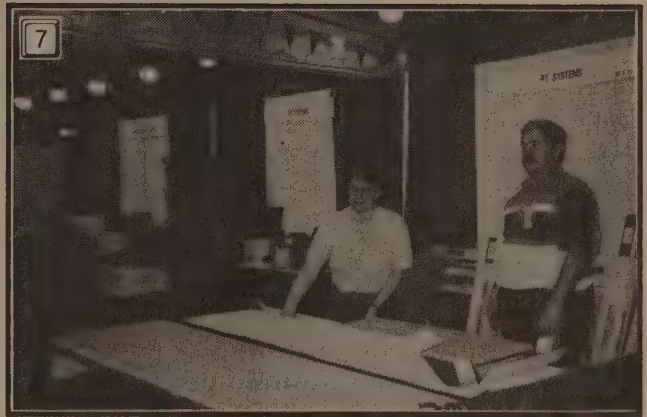
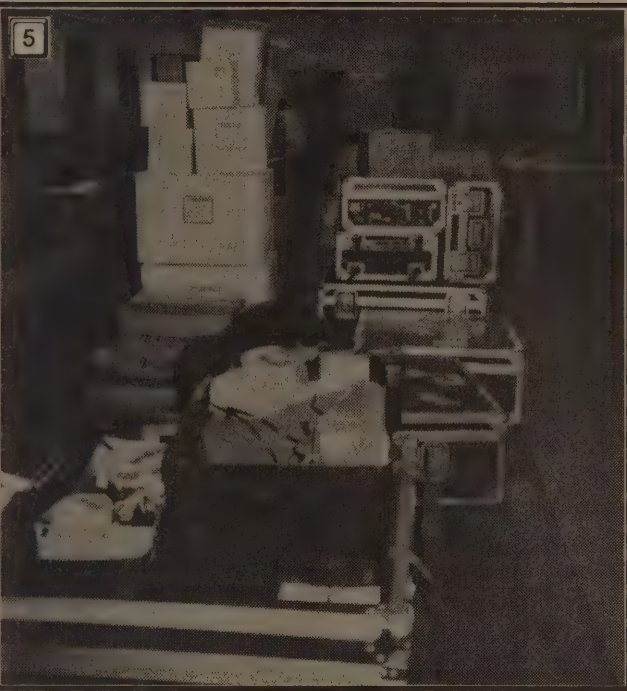
Many of the vendors will replace these signs with commercially made signs such as in PICTURE #3. Many of you will have met **Frank Butler/W4RH** setting up the ARRL booth.



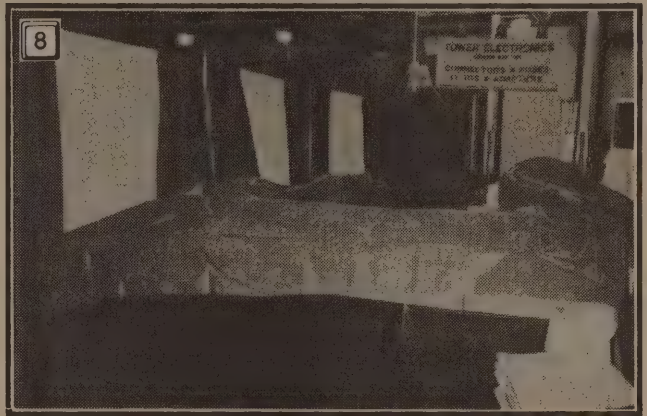
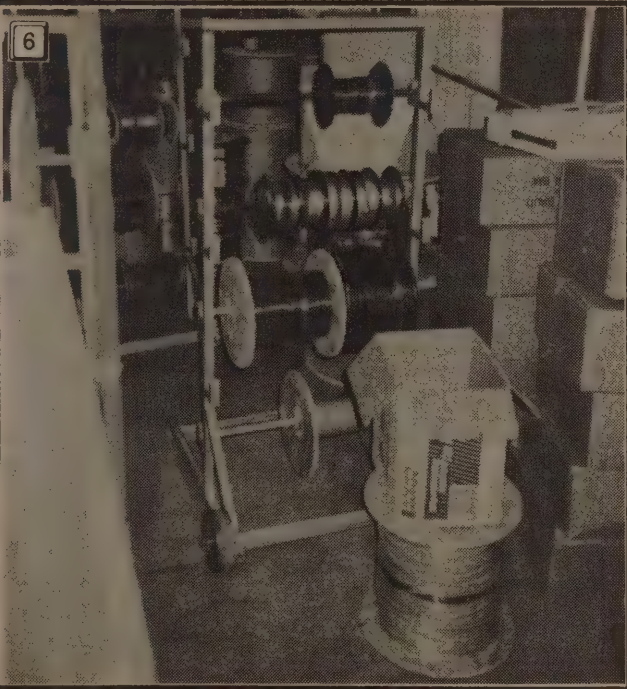
The food center is decorated and ready as seen in PICTURE #4. Tables are covered so that the customers have a place to eat and large garbage cans are ready. Actually there are three places to eat. In addition to the one shown is a small room for vendors only where donuts, coffee, and soda provide a quick snack. The Rainbow girls also have an area in another building where they have facilities for cooking hot food and where they can make the sandwiches for the vendors.



In PICTURES #5 and #6, we see mountains of stock that has to be moved out of the aisles, stored, and displayed where they can be found easily and quickly before the doors open to the public.



After a long hectic day, interspersed with snacks, the work is done and it is protectively covered as seen in PICTURE #8. Tired workers leave for a good dinner and some sleep.



Even the **Florida Skip** booth was ready, though simply decorated the night before. When the doors opened, the booth disappeared hidden by a sea of people. No photo could possibly be taken and show the booth. It would have included bodies packed elbow to elbow.

I helped to set up the MARS booth Friday afternoon, took pictures, then served at that booth all day Saturday with other MARS members. Sunday was our day to drive home. It's an 8 to 9 hour drive for us to get home. That's bad enough.

The vendors, however, had to stay all of Sunday, dismantle their display, and pack all of their equipment or merchandise, and then drive home. For those who had come a long way, I can imagine how they felt. Some had to go to work or open their businesses on Monday morning. I don't know how they do it. They must be a hardy bunch.

73



Photo Essay by
"Matt" Matthew, KC4RKJ

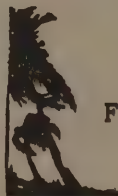
Rod and Karin, of RT Systems, the originators of the popular SAM program, have lots of work to do before their booth will be ready in PICTURE #7. Sleep is not something that vendors have a lot of when they have to drive many hours to get to the site of the HamFest, unload stock, and place it attractively in the booth itself. Some vendors have so many items in large, large shipping crates, that they have to have the help of skiploaders to move them. One truck was loaded with what seemed like hundreds of monitors. I don't know what else they had, but they certainly had monitors.



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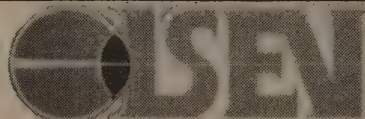
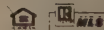
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Florida Army MARS members have again initiated a program which has already increased the visibility and the availability of Army MARS. Pat Goodwin/AAV4ER noticed that America-On-Line, a widely used e-mail host, has a section called Military City On Line (MCO). This section is managed and financed by the publishers of Army Times. After some negotiation and definition of terms, MCO offered Army MARS space in which information articles have been placed and the use of a message center to which messages can be posted by anyone using the system. From this center, we have had a number of queries for information about Army MARS and its program and services. Through this center military personnel and their friends and families are able to find out how to file MARSgrams with an Army MARS operator to be placed into and delivered through the Army MARS Message Traffic System...

E-mail users can file MARSgrams by sending the complete name of the sender, complete name and address for the recipient, a message of no more than 35 words (not business or initial notification of death), and a way to contact the sender. Keep in mind that either the sender or the recipient must be active duty military personnel of any of the services. Currently, MARSgrams are sent to lorimatt@aol.com. There is a backup operator who can access the same mailbox in order to pick up and process the MARSgrams when the primary operator is off line. Thus the service is available without interruption.

Florida Army MARS has one of the finest e-mail networks in the country. There are now twenty members who are

geographically located all over the state. This is an invaluable asset to Florida Army MARS for the wide dissemination of information, of bulletins and messages, and for the very rapid transmission of emergency traffic. It has been our experience that e-mail has greatly augmented the radio modes of operation. E-Mail and radio modes are highly compatible.

The Orlando Hamcation proved to be very productive for Florida Army MARS and for other states as well in terms of recruitment. We had six inquiries from states as far away as Massachusetts. These have been referred to the State MARS Directors in the respective states. Florida Army MARS also acquired a number of new members from the effort. Working the MARS booth enabled us to talk to a great variety of fascinating people. This is an assignment worth taking. I would encourage all MARS members to try this at least once. The MARS meeting was chaired by the Florida Army MARS Assistant State Director, Jim Hamilton/AAT4RD. Lori Matthew/AAA9PR represented Army MARS HQ office and Chief Sutton bringing his greetings and an overview of happenings at the national level. Florida issues were fully discussed and progress in many areas was reported. Representatives of NavyMarineCorps MARS and Air Force MARS were invited to address the group as well. It was a very congenial meeting which reflects the spirit of cooperation enjoyed in Florida MARS operations.

Florida Army MARS congratulates Alabama Area (which includes Panhandle Florida) of NavyMarineCorps MARS for again winning the Green C award. According to Jim Smiley/NNN0XBG, the Green C award is given in recognition of communications excel-

lence in Region Two. This award is presented to units who perform exceptionally on Tactical Readiness Exercises (TRE), Communications Readiness Exercises (CRE), and several inspections of paperwork procedures and crew knowledge. On an annual basis, all Region Two Areas are graded on several readiness categories including: emergency communications, net operations, membership, awards, reports, TEXN operations, and other elements to determine a single winner of the Green C.

After winning the award in both 1992 as well as in 1993, Alabama Area has the unique honor of having won the award three times in a row. There have been two-time winners but never a three-time winner...until now. CONGRATULATIONS ALABAMA!!!

Florida Army MARS joined with Army MARS CONUSwide in participation in the joint Army MARS/FEMA emergency communications exercise which ran from 28 February through 03 March 1995. The joint exercises are held quarterly with different themes and requirements. This one was a muster exercise to determine what radio assets would be available at any given time and with what geographical distribution. In this way, Army MARS maintains the flexibility in its own emergency operation plans (OPLANS) which allows us to work well with all other federal agencies meeting their needs. No longer does Army MARS demand that the protocols are strictly our own. We now have the flexibility and the expertise to interact with the agencies on their terms. This makes Army MARS a most valuable communications asset. Florida Army MARS members excelled in this exercise as they have in all the others in which we have participated. The pride in accomplishment and the desire to take the lead in such operations determine the qualities that Florida Army MARS members bring to an exercise or to an actual operation. Emphasis on the Essential Elements of Information (EEI) mission was maintained in order to prepare us for the upcoming hurricane season and to study potential problems which could arise in each member=92s local area. It was a very valuable and high quality performance of which Florida Army MARS can be proud.

Florida Army MARS, like all of Army MARS, stands proud, professional, and ready.



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dio transmissions which interfere with the plaintiffs' use of their electronic devices; and to pay the plaintiffs' costs of \$1,508.49.

This result is clearly unsatisfying to radio amateurs. The League has consulted a number of knowledgeable attorneys with regard to the case. There is no further avenue of appeal available under Florida law. With regard to returning to federal court, we are advised that further relief in the federal courts is not available because the state courts' jurisdiction has been conceded and because the decision is based exclusively on interpretation of a covenant that the Browsers freely entered into when they purchased their property.

We disagree with the finding that there was a casual link between the installation of the antenna and the alleged interference. If this were not a covenant case, we are confident the federal preemption would have precluded this finding. Given the nature of the device that were allegedly affected by interference, the cause of most if not all of the problems is to be found in the design of the devices. In effect, what the court found in this particular case was that the residents of Suburban Acres had mutually agreed to not annoy one another, and that the Browsers' installation of the 87-foot tower/antenna and subsequent operation violated this agreement. This finding only applies to the particular set of facts in this case and is not a precedent, although the Browsers' experience should discourage amateurs from agreeing to similarly worded covenants and is bound to cause concern among amateurs who are already subject to such covenants but who may have regarded them as unimportant.

The Browsers are not precluded from operating, but the injunction is bound to have a chilling effect on their activity unless good neighbor relations can be restored, which seems unlikely. The Circuit Court now claims jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcement of its judgment, which means that if the neighbors file any further complaints, the court will have to determine whether the injunction has been violated. Should that occur, if requested the League will try to be of assistance.

Covenant cases are extremely difficult because they are interpreted as private contracts. In its present form, PRB-1, which has been of great help to countless amateurs in battling zoning restrictions, does not apply to covenants. As

covenants become more pervasive, the housing options that are available to radio amateurs become ever more limited. The League continues to work to find solutions to this growing problem. In the meantime, amateurs are advised to read deed restrictions and covenants very carefully before purchasing any property that is subject to such restrictions. Should there be any doubt in your mind about possible impact on your pursuit of Amateur Radio, consult your attorney before signing any agreement.

Sincerely,
David Sumner, K1ZZ
Executive Vice President

Ham Radio NEEDS a NATIONAL Emergency Frequency!

- by Kuby, N6JSX/9

Have you ever been traveling through strange lands and needed to report an EMERGENCY to NOT know what frequency the local repeater is or discover the repeater directory has multiple area repeater listings? You begin calling for help on the various repeaters to discover you can't bring up any of the repeaters. I found the ARRL repeater guide does not make any differentiation as to what is THE DOMINATE wide coverage area repeater and some repeaters listed haven't been operational for over a year. And also I found that often the PL frequencies are wrong or not listed. However, this all assumes that you have a repeater guide with you during your travels! I've even got on 146.520 MHz simplex (National Calling frequency) and yelled for help only to get NO response.

The other night while commuting home from Milwaukee in a semi-blizzard making Interstate-43 a single lane, snow covered slippery mess, I spotted three occupied vehicles in the ditch. I tried in vain to raise any HAM on three local repeaters adjacent to I-43. As typical no one was monitoring. I've heard the arguments that ALL of Amateur Radio is for EMERGENCY communications but I found that there is NO single focal point to obtain EMERGENCY assistance and repeaters are NOT religiously monitored even when life threatening weather conditions are occurring!

Even with all my multi-band radios in my vehicle I couldn't get any

help. A cellular telephone with the FREE 911 EMERGENCY call seems to be the only answer to this dilemma, today.

I have a HAM solution for this problem. But it will take the backing of all the National HAM leaders and EMERGENCY conscious Amateur organizations! I propose that 146.550 MHz should be made the United States NATIONAL EMERGENCY (simplex) FREQUENCY!

Other communications services have a specific EMERGENCY CALLING frequency or channel. CB has channel nine (27.065 MHz). Boaters have Marine VHF channel sixteen (156.800 MHz) and the International Maritime Distress frequency is 2182 KHz. And the Aviation EMERGENCY frequency is 121.500 MHz. During major holiday weekends I've found the CB REACT groups monitoring channel 9 and 19, but seldom do I find this type of effort on HAM radio except with the California I-5 and HWY 99, San Joaquin Valley HAMs on their linked two meter repeater system. But that's only good if you know the repeater frequencies in the link

Part 97.1.a states that part of Amateur Radio CHARTER is for "EMERGENCY communications" and yet we have NO special frequency created to assist the "everyday local EMERGENCIES." Part 97 Rules specify certain band areas for beacons, simplex/QRP, satellite, and repeater operations. But NO EMERGENCY frequencies are specified.

The 146.550 MHz as a dedicated NATIONAL EMERGENCY frequency is not, typically, a repeater frequency or in the satellite or beacon operational area. Local repeaters (on 6m, 2m, 220, 440, etc.) could monitor this SINGLE frequency with an auxiliary receiver. If a signal is received on 146.550 MHz with either the EMERGENCY PL tone (recommended 100.0 Hz) or a DTMF tone for at least three seconds (recommended DTMF #1) the repeater would retransmit the audio through the repeater. This would alert local HAMs that a need to render immediate assistance is being requested. HAMs using a common scanner or a simple crystal based monitoring receiver could detect the EMERGENCY PL and/or DTMF signal and then render good Samaritan assistance separate from any repeater. We

Continued on page 31

Georgia Happenings

Macon, GA Hams honored for special festival event

For each of the last four years, the Macon Radio Club of Georgia established and manned a special event station as part of the city's annual Cherry Blossom Festival. The event draws thousands of people in March to see 145,000 Yoshino cherry trees in bloom. This year, the project received a gold award at the International Festival Association convention in St. Paul, Minnesota, for the "Best New Non-sponsorship Idea" — one of 47 categories judged. More than 750 festivals vied for recognition, including the Kentucky Derby, The Indy 500 and the Pasadena Rose Bowl.

Macon hams set up their station in a gazebo in Central City Park. Last year, they made more than 126 contacts with stations in 26 states and 6 countries. QSL cards were acknowledged with special commemorative certificates. Visitors — school children in particular — were encouraged to drop by and learn about radio communication as a hobby and as an emergency service. The hams also provided radio links during the opening Cherry Blossom parade and the Children's Parade.

Thanks to Ellie Waters, WB4CJB, R.B. Wright, W4OZF - Macon Radio Club President, and Willie Garst, N4XMO Event Coordinator.

K1MAN Interferes with Georgia ARES frequencies

-by Ellie Waters, WB4CJB
Editor, Statesboro Am. Radio Soc. Newsletter

K1MAN, Glenn Baxter, in the state of Maine, operates under the guise of a supposed organization called IARN, International Amateur Radio Network. He conducts one-way transmissions of a taped radio show a total of 100 times per week at 45 minutes per broadcast. He insists that he should be given a clear frequency to conduct his broadcasts because he has "established a schedule". If there is on-going communication on the frequency used by him, he airs his broadcasts regardless.

In addition to the tape broadcasts, he holds a two hour live telephone call-in talk show on Sunday nights.

Mr. Baxter has tried to register felony complaints and has written letters of a threatening and abusive nature to hundreds of hams, the FCC and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Maine. He is not using good amateur practice, he is not entitled to a clear frequency, and he is practicing willful interference by allowing his station to come on the air on top of on-going communication.

While Part 97.111 (b)(6) allows one-way "Transmissions necessary to disseminate information bulletins", there is nothing in Part 97 that grants a clear frequency be provided for such transmissions. No where does Part 97 indicate that amateurs using a frequency must relinquish it so that an information bulletin or telephone call-in talk show can be aired interference free.

Mr. Baxter, K1MAN is tying up valuable frequency space used by amateurs throughout the US and in the case of Georgia, a frequency used by the Amateur Radio Emergency Services. This service was particularly instrumental with emergency communications during the spring tornadoes and summer flooding. A check with FEMA and GEMA will verify this. Mr. Baxter has even tried to solicit the assistance of House Speaker, Newt Gingrich to prosecute alleged violators.

Our Amateur Radio Frequencies are truly in danger if we, as good amateur radio operators, don't stand up and be counted. Commercial broadcasters will gleefully take our frequencies. Mr. Baxter is a menace to our hobby.

The FCC recommended sending letters of protest to:

Magalie Salas or Rockie Patterson
FCC

Compliance Information Bureau
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

Send a copy to your Congressman and one each to your senators - along with a copy of the letter to the FCC.

The frequencies and bands interfered with are as follows:

80 meters, 2975
40 meters, 7275
10 meters and 15 meters
20 meters, 14275

DXPO '95 A DXtravaganza April 8 & 9, 1995 in Atlanta, GA

-by Jim Stafford, W4QO

DXPO '95 is quickly approaching and you won't want to miss the all star cast of speakers at the forums for this event. Carrying on the tradition of earlier DXPO events, this year's program features outstanding DXpedition reports, contesting operating techniques, antenna secrets and the latest in DXCC news. We start off with Bill Wall, AC4UZ. Mr. QUAD antenna followed by our own world traveler Bob Allphin, K4UEE with the Baker/Howland Island report. Also on the agenda is Al Hernandez just returning from VP8SGP at South Georgia Island; Tony DePrato, WA4JQS of Peter I fame; contest operating with Rick, NQ4I, Neal AE6E and Ron, AB4RU; Carl Henson, WB4NH who will relive his exciting days in Uganda; and for those who think helicopters are a way of life on DXpeditions, you'll hear how Dave Johnson, WA4SSU and Chaz Cone, W4GKF did it in the "good ole days" at Navassa Island.

Many other forums will be of interest to DXers at the **Ham Radio '95** hamfest which just happens to coincide with DXPO '95. Ham Radio '95 is the south's newest and brightest hamfest and will feature the big three equipment makers and dozens of other exhibitors. There will be hundreds of flea market tables and thousands of people.

In addition, there will be much more with DX ROW - a hospitality affair at the hamfest itself with DXCC card checking and other clubs holding forth. Regarding the cost of the event — if one buys a pin (\$5), two hospitality prize tickets (\$4), a breakfast banquet ticket (\$6) and a hamfest ticket from the club (\$7), one will have spend \$22 for two full days of DX and ham radio fun. Previous DXPO events have cost upwards of \$75, but because we are holding our event concurrent with Ham Radio '95, we can benefit greatly and actually make a little profit for the Southeastern DX Club and support DXing.

For Information:

Buddy Harrell, W4OUN, Secretary
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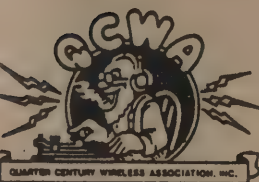
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	#AVO4	WA4EAA-4	441.00	WA4EAA/SRQLAN	160'
Bithlo	BTH1	WB4FOW-1	145.01	WB4FOW	1500'
	#BTH	WB4FOW-2	223.42	WB4FOW	1500'
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Cocoa	COA1	N4LEM	145.01	N4LEM	160'
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Ft Myers	EOCFMY	KE2IX-2	145.03	Lee County E.O.C.	120'
	EOCFMY	KE2IX-2	223.42	Lee County E.O.C.	100'
	EOCFMY	KE2IX-2	441.00	Lee County E.O.C.	120'
(EOCFMY is a G8BPQ Node emulation, and uses the same call on all freqs.)					
Ft. Wal Bch	FWB1	W4ZBB-1145.01		Playground ARC	200'
	LANHOG	KB4OID-1	145.69	(2400 Baud TCP/IP)	160'
Hollywood	HWD	WA4WHD-2	144.93	B.A.R.D.S	250'
	#HWD	WA4WHD-3	223.42	B.A.R.D.S.	250'
	#HWD4	WA4WHD-4	440.975	B.A.R.D.S.	250'
Homestead	HST9	WT4X-1	145.09	WT4X	125'
	#HST	WT4X-2	223.42	WT4X	125'
	HST1	WB6KGB-1	145.01	WB6KGB	1400'
	#HST1	WB6KGB-2	223.42	WB6KGB	1400'
	HST4	WB6KGB-4	441.00	WB6KGB	1400'
Lk Wales	LKW1	W4KUM-1	145.01	Lake Wales Rpt. Ass'n	400'
Miami	ARC1	KF4OJ-1	144.99	America Radio Club	130'
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	#RCC2	N4UTO-2	223.42	Radio Club/Cuba in Exile	300'
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	MIA	KD4JSD-1	144.97	Fellowship A.R.C.	150'
	#MIA	KD4JSD-2	223.42	Fellowship A.R.C.	150'
	DADE	N4YJC-1	145.01	G.E.A.R.S.	120'
	#DADE	N4YJC-2	223.42	G.E.A.R.S.	120'
	#DADE4	N4YJC-4	441.00	G.E.A.R.S.	120'
Mii Lakes	MLK9	KD4CGP-5	145.09	Greater Mia Users Group	250'
	#MLK	KD4CGP-6	223.42	Greater Mia Users Group	250'
Naples	ENAP	WB2WPA-2	145.05	Collier Cty Emer. Mgt	165'
	ENAP	WB2WPA-2	441.00	Collier Cty Emer. Mgt.	125'
(ENAP is a G8BPQ node emulation, and uses the same call on both freqs)					
Okeechobee	ORC1	AA0TB-1	145.01	Okeechobee ARC	300'
	#ORC	AA0TB-2	223.46	Okeechobee ARC	300'
	#ORC4	AA0TB-4	441.00	Okeechobee ARC	300'
Orlando	CFPUG7	WD4HIM-7	145.77	CFPUG (SEDAN NET WORK)	200'
	CFPUG9	W4AT-9	145.77	CFPUG 9600 bd	200'+- *0.6nn+

Ormond Beach	OBTS	AC4QM-7	145.07	N4PLT	140'
	ORM9	N4PLT-9	145.09	N4PLT ORMLAN	170'
	#ORM	N4PLT-12	223.42	N4PLT ORMLAN	170'
	#ORM4	N4PLT-14	441.00	N4PLT ORMLAN	170'
Pensacola	PNS	KO4TT-7	145.01	KO4TT	225'
	#PNS96	KE4COV-9	446.10	KE4COV/KK4CQ	175'
	MCC	KK4CQ-7	145.69	KK4CQ/KE4COV	175'
Port Charlotte	PCHKC4	HQS-6	145.69/441	CHARLOTTE CTY E.O.C.	125'
(G8BPQ Node Emulation.)					
	KC4HQS-7	145.69/441			
Pt Salerno	SHT5	WB9SHT	145.05	125' Knobe Martin Cty E.O.C.	120' digi
Port St. Lucie	PSL5	WA4JAF-5	145.05	WA4JAF	500'
Punta Gorda	#PG4	WB4FOW-9	441.00	WB4FOW	150'
	PG7	WB4FOW	145.07		150'
Sarasota	MZM	KD4MZM-10	28.105 (LSB)		200'
Sebastian	SEB1	N2BF-5	144.91	Sebastian E.O.C.	100'
Spanish Fort	AL	FLMLT	KK4CQ-1	446.10	KK4CQ/SBARC/WKRG 385'
Tallahassee	TLH5	KB4FEA	145.05	KB4FEA (Also on 28.195)	100'
Tampa	RKYPT	KC4LDT-5	147.45	KC4LDT	150' digi
	(KC4HAZ)	145.47	RPTR (Experimental Dig. Frame Regen.)		
Titusville	TVL	WB9MFJ	145.07	WB9MFJ	200'
Vero Beach	VRB	W4OT	144.91	IRC E.O.C.	100' digi
West Palm Beach	WPB3	KB4IQM-3	145.03	KB4IQM	120'
	WPB9	KB4IQM-9	145.09	KB4IQM	140'
	#WPB	KB4IQM-2	223.42	KB4IQM	150'
	#WPB4	KB4IQM-4	441.00	KB4IQM	155'
Youngstown	YGN1	WA5KMA	145.01	WA5KMA	250'

Please send corrections or additions!
BY PACKET: KB4VOL @ KB4VOL
MAIL: Bill Britton, KB4VOL 8703 S.E. Jardin St. Hobe Sound, FL 33455
Thanks for your help!

TURKMENISTAN, BURKINO FASO APPLY FOR IARU MEMBERSHIP

Amateur Radio societies in Turkmenistan and Burkina Faso have applied for membership in the International Amateur Radio Union. The IARU Region 1 executive committee found both applications to be in order and current member societies are now voting, through June 19, 1995, on proposals for their admission. The ARRL has voted in favor of both applications.

The president of the Turkmenistan Radio Amateur League (LRT) is Eugene M. Zwontsov, EZ8BO (ex-UH8BO). LRT says it has 24 members, 23 of whom are licensed to transmit. The total number of licensed amateurs in Turkmenistan is 32.

The Association des Radioamateurs du Burkino Faso (ARBF) says it has 29 members, including a number of officials of the Office National des Telecommunications. ARBF president is Youssouf Kaba, XT2KY.

Current IARU membership is 144 national societies.

H A M B A R S

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FOR SALE - Ameritron AL-811 amp in new condition. \$500.00 delivered UPS. Russ Dorcas, WA8CDT, 423 Pauline St., Sebring, FL 33872. PH: 1-(813) 385-0069.

SACRIFICE SALE - Astro Swan model 103 Solid State Transceiver with matching PS and Astatic D-104 Golden Eagle Microphone -ONLY \$275.00. Also custom built KW amplifier with 4 - 811A finals, roller inductor for - \$175.00. Closing out station. M. Levy, 2042 Australia Way West #8, Clearwater, FL 34623. Telephone 812-791-4730 anytime.

FOR SALE - ATVers Panasonic PK-750 color camera with large evf, 10 ft. 10 pin connector, good color 1:18 Zoom, very clean - \$75.00. Apple IIE computer, matching monitor with stand, drive, complete with \$200 in text books - \$100.00 takes all. Prefer pick up or UPS. Drake TR7, ext. VFO. spkr Drake mike, recently factory overhaul, very clean, works like new - \$475.00 takes all. Andy Clark, W4IYT, 40 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, FL 33166. PH: 305-888-3874.

Cat codependency - A warning sign: You make your cat sit in a safety seat when riding in your car.

FOR SALE - Mosley TA-33 Jr. beam w/rotor - \$200.00. Berne, K4DUB, 14327 Palmwood Rd., Juno, FL 33410. PH: 407-622-0598.

WANTED - Experienced model builder/amateur radio operator willing to trade model making talents for tower or radio gear. Write Lowell Malo, WB0MGS, Box 2806, Vero Beach, FL 32961.

PACKET STATION FOR SALE - AEA PK-88 - \$100.00. IC28A - \$200.00. Power supply - \$25.00. MacRATT with FAX terminal software and all cables - \$55.00. Complete - \$350. Frank Nankin, K4BNZ, 16558 NE 26 Ave., Miami, FL 33160. 305-944-1908.

Actual Country Western Song Title: "Flushed From the Bathroom of Your Heart."

FOR SALE - 36' Tri-X crankup tower - \$550.00. Ham IV rotor - \$100.00. Both - \$625.00. You pick up. Call Leon, WA4ZLW or Nancy (XYL) 407-362-8930. 1338 SW 3 St., Boca Raton, FL 33486.

FOR SALE - Icom SWR R71A with Remote, like new. Control receiver from your bed. One of the best shortwave receivers made. Works perfect - \$650. N8ES, Elmer Shafer, 3479 Kersdale Rd., Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124. PH: 216-831-9198.

Loony Law - Still on the books: It is unlawful to snore unless the bedroom windows are closed and securely locked. (Savannah Beach, GA & Cambridge, Mass)

Yaesu FT-990 SIDEBAND/CW FILTERS NOW AVAILABLE! Also 8-pole & 10-pole Crystal Filters for Kenwood, Icom, & Yaesu. Fox-Tango filters available. Kits & Upgrades. Authorized Kenwood warranty service center. Send for our free catalog. **INTERNATIONAL RADIO & COMPUTER, INC.**, 3804 S. US #1, Ft. Pierce, FL 34982. 1-(407)-489-0956. Look for us at Dayton in Booth #443.

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Wonder if I could sell my
shillelagh in HAMBARS?

Florida Hamfest Update - April, 1995

Compiled by Bill Britton, KB4VOL

DATE	LOCATION	NOTES	DATE	LOCATION	NOTES
Mar 4	Zephyrhills	At 3339 Allen Road Talk-in on 145.190 INFO: WB4UMT @ WB4UMT	Sep 23	Titusville	FREE! At Sandpoint Park on RT 406 east of US 1 Talk-in on 146.910 INFO: Wes, K4SJC (407) 267-1565
Mar 4	Sebring	National Guard Armory on U.S. 27, 6 mi N of Sebring Talk-in on 147.270 INFO: Clyde, W13X (813) 453-7181	Sep 24	New Port Richey	New Port Richey Recreation Center (Sunday Only) 6630 Van Buren Talk-in on 145.350/147.150 INFO: Ron, N9EE (813) 376-6575
Mar 11	Lake Worth	FREE! At John Prince Park (NEW LOCATION!)	Oct 20/21	Starke	Bradford County Fairgrounds US 301 north of SR 100 Talk-in on 145.150 INFO: Dan, K4RVD (904) 475-2695
Mar 18/19	Ft. Walton Beach	Okaloosa County Fairground 1958 Lewis Turner Blvd. Talk-in on 146.790 INFO: Bud (10-7 CST) (904) 243-2404	Oct 21/22	West Palm Beach	Expo Center at South FL Fairgrounds SR 80, just east of US 441 Talk-in on 147.165 INFO: Charlie, K2GNZ (407) 582-1164
Mar 31/Apr 1	Gainesville	Alachua County Fairgrounds SR 24 & SR 222 - At the airport Talk-in on 146.820 INFO: Bill, K4RDP (904) 454-3105	Nov 4	Lake Worth	FREE! At John Prince Park 6th Ave South and Congress Ave Talk-in on 146.670 INFO: Bill, N4ZDD (407) 439-8796
Apr 1	Fort Lauderdale	FREE! At Motorola Parking lot Sunrise Blvd 1 bl east of University Dr. Talk-in on 146.790 INFO: Robin, N4HHP (305) 583-3625	Nov 11	Eustis	Lake County Fairgrounds State Rd 44 & County Rd 452 Talk-in on 147.255/442.900 INFO: Tim, KE4RVO (904) 728-1910
Apr 29	Miami (Opa Locka)	BTTR Hanger @ Opa Locka Airport 4280 NW 147 Terrace Talk-in: 147.570 (simplex) INFO: Louis, N4LDG (305) 386-6184	Nov 18/19	Tampa	Expo Hall - FL State Fairground US 301 & I4 Talk-in on 146.940 & 442.275 INFO: Jean (813) 525-5178
May 13	Belle Glade	FREE! At Belle Glade Marina GREAT lunch available! Talk-in on 147.120 INFO: Dennis, AD4PS (407) 996-7056	Dec 2	Okeechobee	Agriculture Center Bldg. on U.S. 441, 1.5mi north of SR 70 Talk-in on 147.195 INFO: Al, AD4RZ (813) 467-0516
Aug 5/6	Jacksonville	Prime Osborne Convention Ctr South Lee & West Bay St Talk-in: 146.760 INFO: Billy, N4UF (904) 350-9193	Dec 2	Ocala	Booster Stadium Parking Lot N 36th Ave, 1 mi N of SR 40 Talk-in on 146.970 INFO: Mario, N4TSV (904) 245-9514
Jul 29	Tampa	Univ. of South FL Hamfest @ USF Campus, Tampa Indoor A/C facility 9 am - 3 pm. Testing 11am Talk-in: 147.240/146.940	Dec 9	Lake City	Florida Sports Hall of Fame U.S. 90 west of I-75 Talk-in on 145.490 INFO: Joe, WD4EOJ (904) 935-2405
Sep 9/10	Melbourne	Melbourne Auditorium 625 Hibiscus Blvd Talk-in: 146.850 INFO: Allen, N4PTM (407) 777-1120	***** HELP AVOID CONFLICTS - GET YOUR DATES IN EARLY! PLEASE SENT CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS AND WHO TO CALL FOR INFO! Packet Address: KB4VOL @ KB4VOL Army MARS Call: AAT4RV Mail: Bill Britton, KB4VOL 8703 S.E. Jardin St. Hobe Sound, FL 33455 *****		

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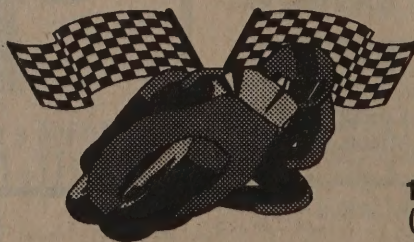
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Emergency - Continued from page 25

could even find some law enforcement groups installing monitoring receivers in their dispatch center.

The real issue is in obtaining EMERGENCY "LIFE and property saving action!" NOT what frequencies, PL's, or DTMF numbers should be used.

The traveling HAMs will NO longer need a, marginally useful, repeater guide or repeater PL knowledge to get EMERGENCY assistance. Just a radio that can transmit on 146.550 MHz with a PL tone or sending a DTMF number.

Two meters is the MOST logical beginning for this, dedicated, EMERGENCY frequency as two meters is the most commonly used local HAM band with the most hand-held and mobile radios sold. But nothing says that 52.520, 223.520, and 446.500 MHz couldn't also be considered for EMERGENCY, ONLY, use. Amateur Radio needs to put into the Part 97 Rules a dedicated EMERGENCY frequency(s). Let's start with 146.550 MHz.

This single EMERGENCY frequency can be pre-programmed into our radio memory eliminating the dangerous operations of dialing up multiple repeater frequencies or PL tones while driving down the highway.

This same concept could be used on the National Calling frequencies; such as 146.520 Mhz using PL or DTMF (recommended 103.5 Hz or # 2 for three seconds) with local repeaters for the wondering traveler seeking general area information.

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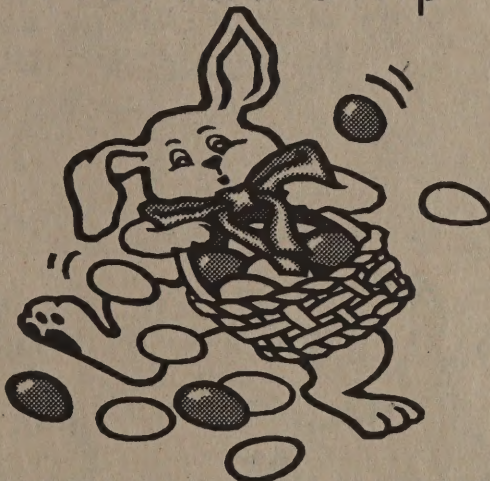
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